

THE LONDON MAGAZINE, ENLARGED AND IMPROVED, FOR MAY, 1784.

PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY.

AS the questions and expostulations of individuals, although seeming to carry the general sense of the House, were found ineffectual to draw from the minister an explanation of the King's answer respecting a dissolution, it was thought expedient to propose a resolution, declaring the meaning which the House understood it to convey. It is difficult to account for Mr. Pitt's persisting in a silence so unusual and so unconciliating.

Jan. 26. Mr. Eden, after some remarks on the humiliating uncertainty under which the House was obliged to exercise its parliamentary functions, and the fullen and indignant silence of the minister, said that it was necessary, instead of soliciting a respite from day to day, to adopt some resolution, that might remove the anxiety and suspense, which filled both the House and the public. He, therefore, moved, "That it appears to this House, that his Majesty's answer" contains assurances, upon which this House cannot but most firmly rely, that his Majesty will not, by the prorogation or dissolution of parliament, interrupt this House in their consideration of proper measures for regulating the affairs of the East-India Company, and for supporting the public credit and revenues of this country; objects which, in the opinion of his Majesty, and of this House, and of the public, cannot but be thought to demand the most immediate and unremitting attention of parliament." Mr. Marsham seconded the motion.

Though Mr. Pitt had resolved not to pledge himself to any specific declaration with regard to a dissolution, when called upon by an individual member, he felt no objection to answer a question proposed in the shape of a resolution, and countenanced by the House. He denied that the King's answer promised any thing more than not to prevent the meeting of parliament after the adjournment; but owned that the resolutions since passed by the House had rendered a dissolution unadvisable. He opposed the resolution as precipitate and indefinite, and as forcing a construction upon the answer, contrary to the express meaning of the words, and the intent of those who framed it, because it bound down the King to an unqualified promise, that he would not resort to his prerogative, and dissolve or prorogue the parliament, in any possible situation of affairs. In his own opinion, how-

ever, the distracted state of the country, at the present juncture, had rendered such a measure totally inexpedient, and he would not advise his Majesty to interrupt the proceedings of the House, either by prorogation or dissolution.

Mr. Fox professed himself satisfied with this assurance: but accused Mr. Pitt of considering himself as superior to the House of Commons, and holding their resolutions in contempt. He called upon him to fulfil his promise, and explain why he continued in office, in open defiance of the House and its resolutions, without the power to carry on any public business, or to serve his country in any shape.

Mr. Pitt denied the imputation. He admitted that his situation was new, but new and extraordinary circumstances might justify new and extraordinary conduct. In critical times, it was incumbent on a minister, who found that he was not approved of by that House, to look to the probable consequences of his immediate resignation; to consider who were likely to be his successors; and whether the country might not receive more detriment than it could possibly derive advantage, from his leaving it without any executive government, and thus making way for an administration, in whom the crown, the parliament, and the people could not equally repose confidence. To have resigned immediately after the resolution adopted by the House on Friday se'ennight, would have been to let in the late ministers, who, however they might enjoy the confidence of the House, had not the confidence of the nation. Such a change, therefore, could have done no good to the country. This consideration alone had kept him in office: he considered himself as performing an act of necessary duty to his King and to his country; and, as long as that continued to be the case, he should persevere.

Mr. Fox did not acquiesce in this reasoning. What was the result of the honourable gentleman's argument, but that he opposed his private opinion to the resolutions of the House. The House had voted his continuance in office contrary to constitutional principles, and injurious to the interests of his Majesty and the people, but he had thought proper to fly in the face of their opinion, and to say it was not. Sacrifices had been called for as the price of an union. Whatever concessions he might make

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* Magazine for January, page 76.

on points that concerned his own honour, and the honour of his friends, the honour of the House was more deeply concerned, and could not be given up without the basest treachery, the most scandalous direktion of public principles. If a treaty were entered into, while the present ministers continued in power, the House might justly say to him, "You wanted place; you sold us for power." He did not mean to say that a minister was never justifiable in differing from the House. No man, in the situation of a minister, would be more likely to do so than he himself; but then he would adhere to his opinion, he would resign his office, and say to the House, "Chuse another instrument to conduct the public business, I am no longer fit to serve you."

Mr. Pitt did not think proper to divide the House, and the resolution passed without further debate.

Jan. 29. Some observations were made on a late creation of peers, from which, it was said, the public would learn this lesson, that the good opinion of the House of Commons was not the most effectual recommendation, in the eyes of his Majesty's secret advisers, to the highest honour which the King can bestow on a subject.

Feb. 2. Those gentlemen who considered an union of the two contending parties as the only means of healing the distractions of the country, finding the remonstrances of individuals of no avail, had now formed an association for that purpose, and continued to meet at the St. Alban's Tavern* by regular adjournments. It was thought necessary to strengthen their recommendation by the authority of the House. A resolution was drawn up agreeable to the general sense of the meeting, and proposed for the concurrence of the House, by Mr. Grosvenor, the chairman:

"That the present arduous and critical situation of public affairs requires the exertions of a firm, efficient, extended, united administration, entitled to the confidence of the people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unfortunate divisions and distractions of this country."

Captain James Luttrell seconded the motion, but entertained sentiments very different from those of the meeting in which it had originated. He argued that the resignation of the present ministry was unnecessary as a sacrifice to the honour of the House, and improper as a gratification of party vengeance. That the House might give up the point without degradation, and that it would be expedient to do so, as the best means of forwarding the union so much desired.

There were some who, having disliked the former coalition, were not desirous of seeing another. They considered the addresses from various parts of the country as convincing evidence that the people were satisfied with the present ministry, and that, whatever divisions might prevail within the walls of the House, without doors there was but one opinion. They objected to the motion under this idea, and as tending to encroach on the prerogative of the crown.

Mr. Powys replied to these objections. Since the truth of the proposition contained in the mo-

tion could not be controverted, since the House adhered to its declaration, that it could not confide in the present ministry, a general coalition was become a matter of necessity, and not of choice.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Pitt assented to the motion, but on very different grounds; the former, because he considered it as a direct confirmation of the resolution already on the journals, and amounting to an express declaration that the present ministry must resign, to make room for such an administration as the motion declared to be necessary; the latter, because it did not make the resignation of him and his colleagues by any means a preliminary to a treaty for an union, but saved the honour of the House, without exposing the country to the anarchy that must ensue from its being left without any government. It was voted without a single negative.

Opposition having obtained so good a foundation lost no time in raising a suitable superstructure. Mr. Coke immediately moved,

"That the continuance of the present ministers in power, after the resolutions of this House, is an obstacle to a firm, efficient, extended, and united administration, which can alone save this country."

This was seconded by Mr. Minchin.

Mr. Dundas desired to know what motion was next to be proposed, and receiving no answer, he considered the present in the light of an address, as a matter by some means or other to be carried up to the foot of the throne. Having laid down this position, he admitted the right of the House to advise his Majesty as to the appointment or removal of ministers. Nothing could be more certain than that the Commons were the constitutional guardians of the people, against the encroachments of the crown, or the other branch of the legislature; but it behoved them to make a discreet and wise exercise of their power at all times, lest they should provoke the people to implore the interference of the crown, to rescue them from the tyranny of the House of Commons. Now, though he was fully persuaded, that, constitutionally the voice of the people could only be collected through the medium of their representatives, yet it was evident, from the numerous addresses which had already been presented from different parts of the kingdom, that the present ministry had the public confidence in a very eminent and honourable degree. He thought also that, if carried, it would render an union still more impracticable, inasmuch as it would disgrace Mr. Pitt, and lower him in the eyes of the world.

Mr. Fox denied that the sense of the people could be collected from addresses unfairly and partially obtained. The present motion ought to be agreed to, as the best means of giving effect to the preceding. It contained nothing personal: it condemned nor proscribed no individual; and even if it had, the House had been forced into it by Mr. Pitt. If ministers were determined to push the House to the utmost extremity, an address must ultimately be proposed. It was not now a question about this or that man, but a question between the House of Commons and the secret advisers of the crown.

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* Mag. for Feb. p. 156.

The honour of the House must be satisfied, and the pride or punctilio of an individual ought not to stand in the way of it.

Mr. Powys observed, that Mr. Fox stood upon very advantageous ground; that he had a right to remind them of the resolutions already passed; and to call upon them to support the present motion, by appeals to their passions, their pride, and their honour. He himself had opposed the resolutions, as grounded on doubtful and unauthenticated premises, and holding out unfair conclusions; but still he was clearly of opinion, that they ought not to remain on the journals of the House, and the present administration continue in office. If, therefore, Mr. Pitt would move the previous question, with a view to have the resolutions reconsidered and rescinded, he would unite with him. On any other terms, he thought the House could not with consistency negative the motion.

Mr. Pitt, though he wished to have the resolutions reconsidered, with a view to their being rescinded, could not content himself with moving the previous question, but thought it necessary to give the motion his direct negative. The House had been artfully kept from considering any one of the various questions lately proposed, on its own proper merits. They had been insidiously led on from one resolution to another, without knowing whither they were to be conducted, or at what degree of violence they were to be permitted to stop. This last he could consider no otherwise, than as an effectual bar to the union so much desired. He insisted particularly on his personal honour, and that of those with whom he acted. He would never consent to march out with a halter about his neck, change his armour, and meanly beg to be readmitted as a volunteer in the army of the enemy. He contended warmly, that those who disapproved of the former resolutions were bound, in consistency, to resist the concision, which the motion tended to establish as the natural consequence of them.

It was carried by a majority of 19.

Feb. 3. Mr. Coke having desired the two resolutions of yesterday to be read, moved,

"That the said resolutions be humbly laid before his Majesty, by such members of the House as are of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council."

This produced a repetition of the arguments so repeatedly urged on both sides of these and the former resolutions, and was carried by a majority of 24.

While the House of Commons was thus strenuously pressing the resignation of the ministry, it was judged expedient that the House of Lords, in which their chief strength lay, should not remain idle spectators of the contest, but should, by some means or other, stand forth in their defence. For this purpose,

Feb. 2, The Earl of Effingham, agreeable to a recent intimation, called the attention of their lordships to some resolutions of the Lower House, which he considered as extraordinary, and portending danger to the constitution. Having moved that the resolution of the 24th of December*, restricting the lords of the Treasury

in the exercise of their discretionary power, with regard to the acceptance of India bills, be read, and also the clause in the act of the 21st of the present King, investing them with that power, he stated the alarming consequences that might ensue, if the resolution were suffered to pass unnoticed, and his intention to move;

"That an attempt in any one branch of the legislature to suspend the execution of law, by separately assuming to itself the direction of a discretionary power, which by an act of parliament is vested in any body of men, to be exercised as they shall judge expedient, is unconstitutional."

As soon as this should be disposed of, he meant to propose another motion, grounded on the resolution of the 16th of January†, declaring the continuance of the present ministry unconstitutional, and injurious to the public interest.

"That according to the known principles of this excellent constitution, the undoubted authority of appointing to the great offices of executive government is solely vested in his Majesty; and that this House has every reason to place the firmest reliance in his Majesty's wisdom in the exercise of this prerogative."

The first motion being read from the woolsack, Earl Fitzwilliam declared his dissent. He defended the resolution against which it was pointed, as a salutary and timely piece of advice to the lords of the Treasury, on a subject which fell particularly within the province of the House of Commons.

The Earl of Fauconberg recommended it to their Lordships to support the just prerogative of the crown, with moderation and firmness, against the violence and intemperance of the other House. They were the hereditary representatives of the people. Their seats in parliament did not depend on borough jobbing or corruption. They held them as their birthrights. They were, therefore, doubly bound to stand forth in times of public danger, and to act in a manner becoming their rank and their high character.

The Duke of Manchester regarded the motion as big with danger to the country, because it was likely to create a breach between the two Houses of parliament, at a time when every step, that tended to add to the internal distractions of the country, must be peculiarly unwise, from the dangerous and critical situation of our domestic and foreign interests.

The Duke of Richmond said it was evident that the House of Commons had run riot, and lost sight of the boundaries which the constitution had marked out for it. It assumed the actual direction of the discretionary powers vested in the lords of the Treasury, by the act of 1781. It was, therefore, highly necessary for their lordships to interfere, and prevent the possibility of a second attempt, equally unconstitutional. The resolution proposed was a truth incapable of question or denial, and to vote it could not possibly disturb the harmony between the two Houses. The second resolution was not less necessary, for attempts had been made in the House of Commons to assume the right of creating ministers. The constitutional means of removing ministers were either by an address or

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an impeachment; and he had advised Mr. Pitt not to resign, till the one or the other of these methods was resorted to, declaring at the same time, that the minister who should pay any regard to the resolutions of the Commons, in their hours of heat and violence, would deserve to be turned out for his want of spirit.

Lord Loughborough explained the nature of the discretionary power vested in the lords of the Treasury, and the extent to which the legislation imagined it likely to be exercised. As it was impossible to ascertain the exact amount of the bills, that would be presented at each given period of time, the sum of three hundred thousand pounds had been inserted, in order to draw something like a line; and a discretionary power was lodged with the Treasury, to authorise the acceptance of five, ten, or fifteen thousand pounds above that sum. This was clearly the intention of the legislature, and the meaning of the clause in the act. But, instead of the sum specified, bills to the amount of millions were sent from India, which totally altered the nature of the Company's application to the Treasury. Upon this ground he justified the resolution of the House of Commons as a wise and necessary interference. He contended that, to fetter parliament with any resolutions, tending to check the free exercise of that power of controul, which it had an undoubted right to exert over the servants of the crown, would not only be felt a most galling and irksome inconvenience, but would subject the publick to loss and to fraud.

The Lord Chancellor left the woolpack to answer Lord Loughborough. He considered the question in the very opposite point of view, and affirmed that the resolution neither was, nor affected to be a hint or piece of advice to the lords of the Treasury, but an assumption of the right to direct the exercise of a discretionary power, vested in a body of men by the three estates of the realm. He treated the conduct of the House of Commons with great asperity, and recommended the motion as necessary to correct the wildness of that mad ambition, which, by talking in a high and nonsensical tone of the dignity and honour of parliament, persuaded men to come into measures at once childish, absurd, and extravagant.

The Earl of Mansfield viewed the motion in a very serious and alarming light, as obviously tending to create a difference between the two Houses, which would naturally lead to a dissolution of parliament, a measure utterly inconsistent with any regard to sound policy, or the safety of the state, in the present critical and pressing circumstances. He declared he had never spoken on any subject with so much anxiety. He was indifferent as to this or that administration, but thought the strongest must be the best. A resolution of the House of Commons, every man knew, could not suspend the law of the land. It might be disobeyed with impunity, of which there were repeated and recent instances. He could not, therefore, see the necessity of voting abstract and self-evident propositions, that could do no good, but might do much harm, and wished the motion might be got rid of, without taking the sense of the House upon it.

Lord Stormont coincided in opinion with his noble relation. He considered their lordships' present proceedings as a weak attempt of Mr. Pitt's friends to support his tottering and impotent administration. Perhaps the address, which he understood was to follow, was meant to make his political dissolution easy, and to serve as flowers to strow on his funeral bier, for, notwithstanding his respect for the House, he knew that its support alone was not sufficient to prop a falling ministry.

The Earl of Coventry, Lord Sydney, and Lord Gower supported the motion, which was carried by a majority of 47. The second resolution was also carried, and an address to the King*, in the same spirit. In the course of the debate, high encomiums were bestowed on the present ministry, especially on Mr. Pitt, and keen invectives on their immediate predecessors.

Feb. 5. Lord Hinchinbroke informed the House of Commons that their resolutions had been laid before his Majesty on Monday, and that he would take them into consideration.

Lord Surrey asked leave to present a petition from Colchester, praying leave to prove, that Sir Edmund Attleck had not that estate, which the law declares necessary as a qualification to sit as a burgess in the House. The Speaker informed the noble lord that the petition could not be received, as any petition affecting the seat of a member must be presented within fourteen days after the return of the writ, and not after the member has taken his seat, as Lord Surrey conceived.

Lord Beauchamp moved, "That a committee be appointed to examine the journals of the Lords, and to see if any, and what proceedings had been had by them, on the subject of a resolution agreed to by this House on the 24th of December last; or any other resolution; and that they make a report to the House."

Mr. Fox remarked that the resolution which gave so much offence to their lordships had passed the 24th of December, and had remained unnoticed till the House of Commons laid their resolutions against the ministry before the King. From this procedure, this curious and alarming lesson might be collected, that as long as the House of Commons should agree in opinion with the ministers of the crown, so long they might pass what resolutions they pleased, unheeded by the Lords; but that, no sooner should they differ from ministers, and advise the crown to dismiss them, than the Lords would stand forth their champions, and commence hostilities against the House of Commons. It was the constant practice of ministers, when they found themselves supported by the House of Commons, to exaggerate its power and its consequence; but when it happened to be in opposition to ministers, then it was cried down, the prerogative of the crown was mentioned in high and lofty strains; and the Lords were called upon to vindicate their rights, which they were prompted to believe invaded, by the exercise of the most constitutional powers of the House of Commons. Thus praised when they supported ministers, vilified and traduced when they opposed them, the Commons must at last be rendered contemptible in

in the eyes of their constituents and the public, and consequently unfit for any of the purposes, for which they formed a branch of the legislature. He said it was well known, that in his Majesty's cabinet there were not wanting those, who were not the warmest friends to the constitution in its present form, and accused the Lord Chancellor, in pretty direct terms, of holding and avowing principles the most abhorrent from the constitution.

Mr. Pitt treated these observations as idle and absurd, and founded on no evidence direct or circumstantial. He reprobated the insinuations against the public principles of the Lord Chancellor, but said, until some specific charge was produced, he would not attempt to defend a character, which stood equally above censure and panegyric.

The motion was agreed to, and a committee appointed.

Feb. 6. The House of Lords heard counsel and examined witnesses on Nibbett's divorce bill, which was read a second time.

In the House of Commons, Lord Beauchamp brought in the report of the committee appointed to inspect the journals of the Lords.

Mr. Dempster's bill for granting the privileges of natural born subjects to the children of British mothers, though born out of the King's dominions, was read a second time.

Lord Beauchamp moved, "That a committee be appointed to search the journals for precedents relative to the usages of the House, touching the exercise or non-exercise of any discretionary power vested in the servants of the crown, relative to the expenditure of public money," which passed without any debate. Mr. Fox then said, that as the House had thought proper to lay some resolutions before his Majesty, it would be but decent to pause for a while, to allow him sufficient time to take these resolutions into consideration. He, therefore, moved to adjourn the committee on the state of the nation to Friday, which was done accordingly.

Feb. 10. Mr. Eden stated, that by the delay of the bill to explain and amend the receipt tax, the revenue sustained a loss of 5000*l.* a week. Lord John Cavendish was still ready to take his share of the odium that had followed the tax, as he was satisfied that it was a good one. Mr. Hussey was of the same opinion, but thought it material to know the intentions of the present administration respecting it. Mr. Pitt said he would speak his sentiments concerning the bill when it came before the committee, and thought it not a little strange that he should be questioned on the subject then. It was determined that the House would resume the consideration of the bill on Thursday, which had already been read a first and second time.

Mr. Pitt then moved to bring up the report from the committee on the Ordnance estimates. Mr. Fox objected to granting any supply, before the House received some answer from his Majesty, on the subject of the two resolutions, that had been carried up to the throne. Mr. Pitt admitted that the House ought to be informed what line of conduct his Majesty meant to pursue, and promised that such information should be given.

Feb. 11. Mr. Eden reminded the House, that the report from the committee appointed to enquire into the illicit trade carried on in this country had been long upon the table, and deserved the most early and serious attention. From the report, it appeared that the losses to the revenue on the articles of tea, wine, and brandy amounted to two millions annually. To bring this money into the Exchequer, it would be necessary to adopt measures that probably would not be popular, and which none but a strong administration could enforce. In the actual state of affairs, he did not mean to propose any thing, upon which there could be a diversity of opinion, but he wished to proceed so far in the business of the report, that whenever such an administration should be formed, as the exigencies of the country required, it might be in such readiness as to be taken into immediate consideration. He, therefore, moved, "That the illicit practices used in defrauding the revenue have increased in a most alarming degree: That those practices are carried on upon the coast, and in other parts of this kingdom, with a violence and with outrages, which not only threaten the destruction of the revenue, but are highly injurious to regular commerce and fair trade, very pernicious to the manners and the morals of the people, and an interruption of all good government: That the more secret illicit practices in the internal excise of this kingdom have also greatly increased: That the public revenue is defrauded to an extent of not less than two millions per annum—and that these enormities and great national losses well deserve the earliest and most serious attention of parliament."

This brought on a conversation on the necessity of an union between Mr. Fox and Mr. Pitt, which was earnestly inculcated by those members who composed the meeting at the St. Alban's.

Mr. Fox hoped that no one who recommended union would think of excluding his noble friend (Lord North) whose weight and abilities were necessary in the formation of a strong and firm administration. The honourable gentleman at the head of the Exchequer must be reconciled to the constitution, which his continuance in office had so grossly violated, before he could unite with him. A difference of opinion, on subjects that no longer existed, was no obstacle to union; but it was impossible for men to think of coalescing, who differed on points that might occur every day. The right honourable gentleman held that a minister may remain in office, after the House of Commons has declared its want of confidence in him, while he maintained the very reverse. This was a great and essential difference, which might every day be the cause of division; for he should be looking to the House of Commons for their confidence and support, while the right honourable gentleman might be looking for both to the crown. Since the right honourable gentleman could not expect that the Commons would give up their opinion to him, it would be more decent to sacrifice his opinion to their's. He did not wish that business should cease during a negotiation. Let it only be declared that the present administration

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was virtually at an end, and then he should have no objection to treat. On the affairs of India, the right honourable gentleman and he might differ, but the House could decide between them. Though he meant not to recede from the principles of his bill, that the government should be at home and the system permanent, he hoped to modify every other part in such a manner as to give general satisfaction.

Mr. Pitt was equally desirous of union. He thought a minister ought to possess the confidence of the crown, as well as that of the House of Commons. He and his colleagues were ready to resign the moment there was a prospect of an administration being formed, by whom the country might be effectually served. There were, however, persons, against whom he had no personal dislike, whose private characters he respected and revered, whose abilities were eminent, with whom, notwithstanding, he could never bring himself to act in the cabinet.

Lord North, who was not in the House at the commencement of the debate, conceiving himself alluded to by Mr. Pitt, said, that though he felt not the least disposition to gratify the right honourable gentleman's opinions or prejudices, which were not founded in reason or in justice, he loved his country too well, to suffer his personal expectations to stand in the way of its good: if, therefore, he was deemed an obstacle to union, he was ready to withdraw his pretensions.

This declaration was generally applauded, as disinterested and patriotic, and the hopes of an union were considerably increased. The motion passed unanimously. The House then went into a committee of supply on the Ordnance estimates, and the sums for new fortifications, and the purchase of Sir Gregory Page's house being withdrawn for further consideration, the remaining sum of 324,964*l.* was voted without debate.

Feb. 12. The House divided on the order of the day for going into a committee on the receipt tax, which was carried by 167 against 33. The minister divided with the majority, and such of his friends as had been most vehement in their opposition withdrew before the division.

Lord Beauchamp brought up the report of the committee appointed to search the journals for precedents relative to the usages of the House, &c. It began with precedents as far back as the year 1626, and proceeded regularly on to the end of the session in 1783. It was ordered to be printed, and considered on Monday.

Feb. 16. A doubt having arisen whether the office of Constable of the Tower, to which Lord George Lenox had been lately appointed, was a civil or military office, Lord Maitland moved "for an account of all fees, perquisites, and allowances payable to the Constable of the Tower, and the form of the warrant for paying the same."

Lord Beauchamp then read the various precedents from the journals, respecting the privileges of the House, and having commented on each, he moved the six following resolutions, which, he said, were meant not to recriminate, but to vindicate the rights of the House:

1. "That this House hath not assumed to itself any right to suspend the execution of law.
2. "That it is constitutional and agreeable

to usage, for the House of Commons to declare their sense and opinions, respecting the exercise of every discretionary power, which, whether by act of parliament or otherwise, is vested in any body of men whatever, for the public service.

3. "That it is a duty peculiarly incumbent upon this House, entrusted by the constitution with the sole and separate grant of the public money, to watch over, and, by their timely admonitions and interference, to endeavour to prevent the rash and precipitate exercise of any power, however vested, which may be attended with any danger to public credit, or with heavy losses to the revenue, and consequently burthens upon the people."

4. "That the resolution of the 24th of December last, which declared the sense and opinion of this House, 'That the commissioners of the Treasury ought not to give their consent to the acceptance of any bills, drawn, or to be drawn, from India, until it shall be made appear to this House, that sufficient means can be provided for the payment of the same, when they respectively fall due, by a regular application of the clear effects of the Company, after discharging, in their regular course, the customs and other sums due to the public; and the current demands upon the Company: or until this House shall otherwise direct,' was constitutional, founded in a sense of duty towards the people of this kingdom, and dictated by a becoming anxiety for the preservation of the revenue, and the support of public credit."

5. "That if this House had, in the unsettled state of the East-India Company, which was and still is under the consideration of parliament, in order to form some provisions for the relief of that Company and the security of the public, neglected to pass the said resolution of the 24th of December, to guard against a new charge, to a very considerable amount, being rashly incurred, before any means of answering it had been stated or provided, they would have been justly and highly responsible to their constituents, for the increase of those evils and difficulties, which are already too severely felt.

6. "That this House will, with the utmost moderation, but with the most decided firmness, maintain inviolably the principles of the constitution, and will persevere in the diligent and conscientious discharge of the duties which they owe to their constituents and to their posterity, equally sollicitous to preserve their own privileges, and to avoid any encroachments on those of either of the other branches of the legislature."

These resolutions were very ably supported by Sir Grey Cooper and Mr. Erskine. They were opposed by Mr. Macdonald, Mr. W. Grenville, and Mr. Dundas, the last of whom proposed an amendment to the fourth, by inserting after the word direct, "being only to signify the opinion of this House, touching the expediency, under certain circumstances, of the exercise of discretionary powers given by act of parliament, and not as binding the lords of the Treasury to forbear the exercise of the said powers, or to subject the same to the separate direction of this House." Mr. Fox and Lord North defended the resolutions, and opposed the amendment. Mr. Pitt said that, unless the House would adopt the amendment,

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amendment, he would move the previous question, which having done, it was negatived by a majority of 29, after which the resolutions were severally put, and carried.

Feb. 18. The order of the day being read for taking into consideration the report of the committee on the Ordnance estimates, Mr. Pitt, according to promise, acquainted the House with his Majesty's sentiments respecting the resolutions that had been laid before him; "That, upon consideration of all the circumstances of affairs, his Majesty had not thought proper to dismiss his ministers, nor had they resigned." As Mr. Pitt explained this not to be a formal message, but merely an intimation of his Majesty's pleasure, it was not entered on the journals of the House.

Mr. Fox observed, that this was the first instance, since the accession of the House of Brunswick, of a direct refusal on the part of the crown to comply with the wishes of the House of Commons. Almost all the money voted by the House was voted in confidence. Could the minister then expect, that the House would proceed to vote a supply, which fell more particularly under that description, in the very moment that it had been insulted by a message, which his Majesty had been so ill advised as to send. To postpone a supply was not to refuse it. He hoped, therefore, the House would agree with him in the propriety of putting off the vote of supply for forty-eight hours, that their indignation might have time to cool, and that there might be time to reflect, and determine what measures ought to be pursued.

Mr. Eden and Mr. Powys approved of the delay. Mr. Pitt insinuated, that under the mask of delay was concealed an intention to withhold the supplies. He admitted the right of the House to refuse supplies in cases of great public danger, but contended that his Majesty's having refused to dismiss his ministers, because the House had condemned them without a trial, was no reason whatever for exercising it. He stated, that his Majesty had proposed a plan for a new administration, and had endeavoured to bring about a conference on that subject, between the Duke of Portland and himself, but his gracious intentions had been frustrated by the noble Duke's refusing, in the first place, to have any conference with him previous to his resignation, and secondly, refusing to treat, unless his Majesty would send for him, and give him authority to form an administration.

Mr. Fox replied, that the Duke of Portland had not objected to a conference from personal considerations, but because he thought it inconsistent with the honour of the House of Commons, to confer with a set of men, who avowedly were ministers, in open defiance of its resolutions: that if Mr. Pitt would admit the words *new administration* to imply the virtual resignation of the present, he did not doubt but the Duke of Portland would think such a declaration a sufficient ground for entering into a negotiation.

To this Mr. Pitt made no reply, and after a debate of considerable length and some acrimony, the consideration of the report was postponed to Friday by a majority of 12.

Feb. 19. A short conversation took place respecting the vote of last night, one party contending that the other had withheld the supplies, while they affirmed, that they had simply voted a postponement of a single supply for two days, without ever meaning to withhold it.

Feb. 20. Mr. Powys complained of this imputation. He denied that the idea of withholding the supply had been entertained, for a moment, by any one of those who voted to postpone it. When a dissatisfactory and ungracious answer had been given to their resolutions, a naked and unexplained vote of supply would wound the dignity of the House. If the resolution, which he was about to propose, should be adopted, he would then most cheerfully vote for the supply. The contest now looked serious. The standard of prerogative seemed to be erected on one side, and that of privilege on the other. As one of the people, he could not hesitate to which it was his duty to resort. He concluded with moving

"That this House, impressed with the most dutiful sense of his Majesty's paternal regard for the welfare of his people, relies on his Majesty's royal wisdom to take such measures, as may tend to give effect to the wishes of his faithful Commons, which have been most faithfully represented to his Majesty."

Mr. Eden compared the addresses of the present time to those which poured in from all quarters, towards the close of Charles the Second's reign, when the court was attacking all the charters of the kingdom by *Quo warranto*, in order to command the returns of members to parliament. He attributed the odium that had been excited against the India bill to the agents and connexions of the overgrown delinquents, whom it was meant to restrain, who had every advantage of abilities, activity, industry, and money. He charged ministry with endeavouring to keep up the false blaze of their popularity, by misrepresenting and calumniating the measures of the House. He moved to insert after the word "measures," "by removing such obstacles as the House has declared to stand in the way of an extended, efficient, and united administration, such as the House has resolved to be necessary, in the present arduous and very critical situation of his Majesty's dominions."

Of the friends of ministry some objected to the original motion, and some to the amendment. What was a small majority of that House, compared with the other two branches of the legislature, and the voice of the people? But the chief part of the debate lay between Mr. Fox and Mr. Pitt.

The former pursued a vast extent and variety of argument. He complained that he and his friends had been studiously loaded with all the obloquy that art could imagine or malice impute. New colours for their conduct were daily held out, all equally foreign from the true motives of their proceedings, and all equally calculated to confound and delude. He distinguished most accurately between the money appropriated to pay the interest of the publick funds, and the money voted to defray the charge of particular services, and shewed that the worst ministers, or the most unconstitutional monarch must not be refused

refused the one, but that it might be highly expedient to withhold the other from the best of princes, if that House could not confide in his ministers. He contrasted the magnanimous and disinterested conduct of Lord North with that of Mr. Pitt; asked how he dared to put his honour in competition with the honour of the House; and desired him to point out a single instance, since the Revolution, of a minister retaining his situation, a single moment, after he had lost the confidence of that House. He defended the resolution and the amendment, as a kind of necessary *salvo jure* to the House, before it could vote the supply, in the present situation of affairs.

Mr. Pitt replied with animated and haughty eloquence. He repeated his declaration, that he was ready to resign on the most distant prospect, that his resignation would contribute to restore solid peace and happiness to the country; but was firm in his resolution not to resign as a preliminary to a negotiation, or to throw himself on the mercy of Mr. Fox. By so doing he should become the ridicule of his opponents, and forfeit the good opinion of those who now supported him; for when he should have sacrificed his honour for Mr. Fox's protection, and bartered his reputation for his great connexion, he should become the slave of those connexions, the mere sport and tool of a party; for a while, perhaps, a minister appointed by that party, but no longer useful to his country, or independent himself. He treated the delay of Wednesday as an useless and ineffectual bravado, and asked if there was any thing in his character so flagitious, as to render him suspected of alienating the public money, or unfit to be trusted with the ordinary issues. He avowed himself the champion of the King's just prerogative, which had been justly called a part of the rights of the people, and a part of which they were never more jealous than at that hour. He warned the House against suffering an individual to involve his own cause in its resolutions. If the constitutional independence of the crown were reduced to the verge of annihilation, where would be the boasted equipoise of the constitution? Where that balance among the three branches of the legislature, which our ancestors had marked out with so much precision. Dreadful, therefore, as the conflict was, his duty, his conscience, his country, called upon him to defend the cause. He was determined, and would still defend it.

The motion with the amendment was carried by a majority of 20.

Mr. Fox then said, that, as the minister and his friends had met the resolution with such high language, and had treated the House in every respect so cavalierly, he would move, without further delay, to convert it into an address* to the throne, to be presented by the whole House. The House divided again on this motion, which was carried by a majority of 21.

The report of the committee on the Ordnance estimates was then brought up, and unanimously agreed to.

Feb. 23. The Attorney-General moved for accounts of all public monies in the hands of the Right Honourable Richard Rigby, on the 13th day of November last, and also on the 19th day of November last.

It appeared that Mr. Rigby, from the diffi-

culty of calling in the balance before in his hands, found himself obliged to apply to the board of Treasury for 140,000*l.* to answer the necessary demands upon him, which had been granted by the Duke of Portland. Mr. Rigby justified himself in this by the example of former paymasters, and expressed his willingness to pay interest for the public money in his hands, until he could call in the principal, and pay it into the Exchequer.

The Attorney-General then moved for copies of the minutes of the Treasury, respecting the issuing of money to Mr. Rigby, on the 11th of November last, and also an account of the payments made by him since that time.

Feb. 24. Mr. Dempster's naturalization bill was lost in a committee.

The report of the committee on the bill to amend the receipt tax was brought up and read a second time.

Feb. 25 Being the day appointed to carry up the address to the King, Lord Beauchamp moved to adjourn to Friday, that gentlemen might have time for consideration, before they proceeded to business after receiving the King's answer.

Feb. 27. His Majesty's answer† being read from the chair, Lord Beauchamp moved to adjourn the consideration of it to Monday, that the minds of men might have time to cool, and intimated his intention to move, that the House should adjourn till then, since, when ministers advised the crown to stick so closely to prerogative, it behoved the House to take measures for defending its privileges, in preference to every other business. This was opposed by the friends of ministry, as a factious and vexatious delay. Lord North ascribed whatever dangers resulted from delay to the obstinacy of the minister, who might, by resigning, remove them all in twenty-four hours. The adjournment was carried by a majority of seven.

March 1. The King's answer being again read, Mr. Fox took an extensive retrospect of the origin and progress of the contest, from the rejection of the India bill. He lamented the interruption of that harmony between the sovereign and the House of Commons, by which the nation had risen to such an envied pitch of glory, since the accession of the Hanoverian line. Before the present time, the personal confidence of the prince had never once been mentioned as sufficient to support a minister, against the sense of the House of Commons. This the conduct of Sir Robert Walpole and Lord Grenville evinced, who had both retired from office, though possessing the most ample confidence of the late King. He enlarged on the intention of the secret advisers to render the House of Commons contemptible in the eyes of the people, as the mere appendage of the court, the obsequious instrument of every minister; or, failing in that, to shew its insignificance, by keeping ministers in power in contempt of its opinion. He maintained that the House possessed an undoubted constitutional negative on the appointment of ministers, and that, though in general this negative was not to be exercised before trial, yet there were cases, in which the House ought to interfere, before any measure whatever was proposed by a minister. He contended that the nomination of the present ministry constituted such a case, from the very circumstances which attended

* Mag. for March p. 242. † p. 242.

attended it. He next adverted to an union, the formation of which two obstacles were said to impede—the honour of the House, and the punctilio of the present minister. When such points came in collision, which ought to give way? Unquestionably the minister, and not the House. Now that the prospect of union was no more, he would venture to say, that, though for the sake of his country, he had expressed his readiness to unite, neither the system of the present ministry, nor their characters as statesmen, would make him very ambitious of joining in administration with them. He knew the value of Mr. Pitt's abilities. He might be a formidable opponent, or a powerful friend; but still he would not despair of carrying on the business of the public without his assistance.—*Genium ejus non ita laudabo ut pertimescam*—and he did not doubt but his faithful services would obtain all the confidence from his gracious master, that is necessary for a minister. The House could not be expected to vote supplies, to be managed by ministers, in whom it had no confidence. It might be dangerous to refuse them entirely, while ministers manifested so little regard for the public good; and if the House should be driven to that necessity, he would advise to put off so alarming a measure to the utmost stretch of forbearance. He concluded with moving a second address, which lamented the ill success of the former, insisted with firmness on the right of the House to advise the crown, and prayed for the removal of the ministry, in direct and express terms.

Mr. Pitt's reply was brief. He explained Mr. Fox's doctrine to amount precisely to this; that no ministry ought to be appointed, until the sense of the House of Commons were previously consulted, and consequently, that no administration could be dismissed, till it was known whether the Commons would consent to their dismissal; by which means both the executive and legislative characters would be united in the House. He held the King's answer to be extremely proper. The address had not recommended the absolute dismissal of ministers, but merely the removing of such obstacles, as might stand in the way of an union. Now the King knew that to have dismissed his ministers, so far from removing an obstacle, would have been an insuperable bar to union; for he himself adhered to his former declaration, that if he should be removed from his office, as a preliminary, to a treaty, no treaty should ever take place, as far as he was concerned. He had never yet admitted that the dismissal of ministers ought necessarily to follow an address, for that purpose, from the House of Commons, and denied that the doctrine was sanctioned by any law. The address was carried by a majority of 12.

March 2. Lord Mahon brought in a bill to prevent bribery at elections.

The Solicitor-General brought in a bill to provide a temporary reception for criminals under sentence of death, and respited during his Majesty's pleasure, or under sentence or order of transportation, and also for sick prisoners.

Passed the bill to amend the receipt-tax.

March 3. On reading the commission appointed. MAG. May, 1784.

pointing Lord Cornwallis constable of the Tower, it appeared that the salary was made payable at the Exchequer. This, it was said, was an error, which had been copied into one commission from another, for eighty years past; whereas, in fact, it was never paid at the Exchequer, but voted annually in the provision made for guards and garrisons. It was then voted that the acceptance of the office of constable of the Tower by Lord G. H. Lennox, he being a military officer, did not vacate his seat in the House.

The House, in a committee of supply, voted 701,257l. for the ordinary of the navy.

March 4. The Speaker, attended by the members, went up to St. James's with their second address. As soon as they were returned, Mr. Fox moved to adjourn the consideration of the King's answer* to Monday, which was agreed to without debate.

Mr. Welbore Ellis then observed, that it was the practice of the House not to enter on any public business, until questions that concerned the privilege and dignity of the House were first disposed of, and moved to adjourn to Monday. Mr. Pitt objected to this, as of a piece with the delay of last week. As the mutiny bill was so near expiring, and was the first-order of the day for to-morrow, he thought the House too thin to discuss a question of adjournment. It was, therefore, agreed to adjourn till to-morrow, to debate the propriety of postponing the mutiny bill to Monday.

March 5. The usage of the House, and respect to the King were urged in favour of the adjournment, and that there was time enough to pass a new mutiny bill, before the expiration of the old. It was intimated also, that it might be expedient to pass a short mutiny bill. To this it was answered, that it would be imprudent to run the bill to a day, and risk the consequences that must follow, if by any accident it should miscarry; and that if a short mutiny bill should be sent up to the Lords, and they should think proper to alter it, the present bill must expire before the difference could be settled between the two Houses. The adjournment was carried by a majority of 9.

March 8. Mr. Fox arraigned the King's answer, as containing such gross contradictions, and such scandalous duplicity, as had never been put into the mouth of Majesty. He could not have believed, that the minister would dare so far to insult the House, as again to ask the reasons of their resolutions. The meanest beggar, in the most arbitrary government, had a right to petition the King, stating the reasons of his petition; and was this the whole mighty privilege, that the King was advised to allow the British House of Commons. The House of Commons had often petitioned without stating their reasons, and he should think himself warranted by former precedents to move a resolution, declaring him an enemy to his country, who should advise the continuance of the present administration. But he had yielded to the advice of his friends, and meant only to move an humble representation † to his Majesty, to which no answer was customary. He defended the conduct of Mr

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* Mag. for March, p. 243. † P. 243.

Powys and Mr. Marham, and animadverted with much severity on those who had deserted the cause of the constitution, towards the issue of the contest.

Mr. Dundas observed, that it was high time to ask themselves, whether it was the House, or all the world beside that had been deceived. Their constituents, instead of catching that raging fever, to which they had worked themselves up, by haranguing perpetually about their dignity, had thought proper to apply phlebotomy to their veins, in hopes of relieving their phrenzy a little. He defended the King's answer, as fair, manly, decided, and explicit, and hinted that the meeting at the St. Alban's had caused much procrastination, and had answered no good purpose.

The representation was carried by a majority of one.

Such was the issue of a contest, which had suspended all public business from the 16th of December. Opposition no longer threatened to stop the supplies, an attempt that, in all probability, would now have exceeded their power; and the idea of preventing a dissolution of parliament, by a short mutiny bill, to be renewed from time to time, was abandoned.

March 9. A bill for the usual time was agreed to in a committee, without debate. On this occasion, the fallen dignity of the House of Commons was lamented, and the ministers complimented on having triumphed over it and the constitution. A deluded people had been taught to desert their natural guardians, and to seek protection from the crown; but the alliance was too unnatural to be lasting, they must soon be freed from the illusion, or they would have cause to repent having lent their assistance to degrade their own representatives. Had those, who advised his Majesty's late answers, recollected, that he held his crown by a vote of parliament, they would hardly have advised him to treat a vote of the House of Commons, with so little ceremony. The House was indeed conquered, for though its vote could once bestow a crown, it could not now procure the dismissal of a minister. But let ministers, by a long mutiny bill, be permitted to dissolve the parliament; though a dissolution would evidently be ruinous—though they themselves had acknowledged it to be improper. Let them now display the bent of their genius, and have scope to run their mad career.

March 10. The report of the committee on the mutiny bill was agreed to, and 1,100,000*l.* voted in a committee, for the extraordinaries of the navy.

March 11. The royal assent was given by commission to the receipt-tax, and fifteen other bills.

In the House of Commons, a motion was made to bring up the report of the committee on Lord Mahon's bill to prevent bribery at elections. Lord John Cavendish thought the bill carried its principles to such an extent of scrupulous nicety, that it would hardly be possible for a candidate to avoid subjecting himself to the penalties of it, and, therefore, wished it to be printed, before bringing up the report. It was

ordered to be printed, and recommitted on Friday the 19th.

The order of the day was then read for bringing up the report of the committee on the bill to provide a temporary reception for criminals, &c.* but some doubts being started, concerning the legality of changing sentences already pronounced, it was also ordered to be recommitted.

The next order of the day being for taking into consideration the report of the court of directors of the East-India company, on the state of the company's finances. Mr. Eden objected to it, as founded entirely on conjecture and speculation, and, in many instances, on premises absolutely false. He, therefore, moved to refer it to a select committee of fifteen members, to be chosen by ballot, which was agreed to.

March 12. The bill for the removal of convicts, &c. was recommitted and amended.

Mr. Alderman Sawbridge, having some days before undertaken to bring forward some proposition on the subject of parliamentary reform, which Mr. Pitt, for the present, had thought proper to decline, renewed the original motion for a committee to enquire into the state of the representation.

Mr. Fox was of opinion that those who had lately despised and insulted the House of Commons, as speaking a language different from that of the people, were bound to promote such a reform, as would make the representatives truly speak the sentiments of the represented.

Mr. Eden, on the contrary, thought the motion a gratuitous revival of a dangerous question, tending only to let loose the minds of the multitude, to instill into them mischievous jealousies of the legislature, to create alarms, and give no satisfaction, to excite expectations, and produce certain disappointment.

Mr. Pitt argued for a reform with his usual eloquence, indulged himself in a sneer at the manner in which the business had been now brought forward, and called upon Lord North to deliver his sentiments.

Lord North said his opinion was of less consequence, since the right honourable gentleman had eased him of great part of that majority, which had supported it on a former occasion. It was, however, still the same, and he thought the conduct of the present House of Commons an additional proof, that the established form of representation was fully efficient. The motion was negatived by a majority of 48.

March 16. A bill to continue for a limited time the act of last session, giving his Majesty certain powers for the better carrying on trade and commerce with the United States of America, was read a first time.

March 17. In a committee of supply, the Secretary at War moved that the sum of 173,001*l.* be granted to his Majesty for the pay, &c. of Chelsea Hospital.

Sir Cecil Wray said the above estimate was, at an average, 51*l.* 5*s.* per man; and as the evil could not be remedied while the hospital remained, he sincerely wished to see it pulled down.

March 18. In a committee on the bill for granting a bounty on linens and calicoes exported, Mr. Eden observed that, as Great-Britain

* For an abstract of this bill see State-Papers for this number.

Britain and Ireland seemed to be out bidding each other in bounties, it would be proper to insert a clause, limiting the duration of the bill to that of the last Irish act on the same subject, that on the expiration of both, the business of bounties might be settled by mutual agreement between the two countries.

The blank in the American intercourse bill, for the space of time it was to last, was then filled up with the words "twenty-fourth of June next."

March 19. The report from the committee on the bill to prevent bribery at elections being brought up, several members wished to get rid of the bill, as thinking the laws against bribery already too voluminous and too severe. On a division, there appeared a majority of 21 for going on with the bill.

March 22. The Secretary at War moved for the House to go into a committee of supply on the army estimates. Sir Grey Cooper said it was now generally understood that the parliament was to be dissolved, but he could not conceive how ministers could venture upon so daring a measure, without an appropriating act, at least for the pay of the army. To pay the army, without the authority of parliament, would be a manifest infringement of the bill of rights, would disturb the title to the throne itself, and would lead to infinite mischief. To these and several other observations and questions from other members Mr. Pitt made no reply, and the sum of 2,360,992*l.* was granted for the extraordinaries of the army. The House divided on the third reading of the bill to prevent bribery at elections, which was passed by a majority of 7.

March 23. In the House of Lords, the said bill being brought up and read, Lord Mansfield objected to it, as tending rather to contract the law against bribery than to enlarge and enforce it. He reasoned on the ill policy of multiplying statutes unnecessarily. What the statute and common laws had already declared criminal, it was idle and inconvenient to pass new statute laws to declare criminal; and so strong, so extensive, and so effectual, were the laws already in being against bribery at elections, that the

bill appeared to him totally unnecessary. It was ordered to be printed, and of course lost, by the dissolution of parliament.

In the House of Commons, the report from the committee on the army estimates being brought up, Mr. Eden and Lord North made some observations on the impropriety and hazard of a dissolution of parliament. The pay of the army for the month of May could not be issued, a respite of duties to the East-India Company, for which they would soon have occasion to apply, could not be granted, without the sanction of parliament. It might be said that ministers might venture to do both, because an act of indemnity might be obtained from a succeeding parliament; but if ministers were found daring enough to break the law, through a necessity of their own creating, and a parliament should be found mean enough to indemnify them, the country was no longer governed by law, and there was an end of the constitution. But it was not enough for ministers to disregard the House of Commons, they added insult to contempt. They went through the mockery of voting supplies, for which they were determined that the House should not provide. Mr. Pitt deigned not to reply. Lord North rose again. He supposed that, in future, there was to be a parliament of questions and a parliament of answers, in like manner, as one parliament was to vote supplies, and another was to find ways and means. Not, therefore, expecting any answer in this parliament, he would ask upon what principle of law written or common, on what principle of the constitution, could money be issued without an act of appropriation, and contrary to the express resolutions of the assembly that has the right of voting money. The question on the report was then carried, without a division.

March 24. His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and gave the royal assent to the mutiny bill, the militia pay bill, and fourteen other public and private bills: after which he made a speech* to both Houses, and prorogued the parliament, which was dissolved by proclamation on the 26th.

THE HISTORY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT-BRITAIN,

BEGUN and HOLDEN at WESTMINSTER, on the 18th of MAY, 1784.

THE circumstances, which led to the premature dissolution of the late parliament, are so recent in the mind of every reader, as to render a minute recapitulation altogether unnecessary. A majority of the House of Commons, attached to an administration, whom his Majesty had thought proper to dismiss from his service, refused to acquiesce in the nomination of the crown, or to place confidence in men, who had been called into office in an unusual manner, and continued in open defiance of their declared opinion. The King, supported by the House of Lords, and relying on the spirit manifested by the people, who, according to their custom on all occasions when their minds have not been heated by religious zeal, took part with the crown against their representatives, had recourse to the exercise of his undoubted prerogative, which, however, had lain dormant for many years, and appealed to the great body of the

people, the fountain of all power, for a confirmation of the appointments which he had made.

The short space of time, that intervened between the dissolution of the old and the meeting of the new parliament, left little room for alteration in the state of affairs, either foreign or domestic. Things remained nearly in the same situation as at the opening of the last session. The attention of the court, and of opposition, was equally occupied by the general election. Both sides pursued their respective interests with such indecent ardour, and often by such unworthy means, as disgusted all moderate men, excited the contempt of the wise, and the pity of the virtuous. The appeal to the people in such circumstances, far from opening a prospect of unanimity and moderation, served only to disseminate more widely the principles and licentiousness of faction. Men's minds were exasperated by the vehement personal contentions, in

which they were universally engaged; and the violence of party was inflamed by the rancour of private animosity.

Success declared very generally in favour of the ministry, and they opened the session with a much greater majority than Lord North could command in 1780. The electors seemed animated with uncommon zeal against the adherents of the coalition; and, in the fervour of their resentment, it is not surprizing that they were more solicitous about whom they should reject, than whom they should choose.

The old expedient of curbing the exorbitant or formidable power of the Commons, by calling up a number of those possessing the greatest property and most extensive influence to the House of Peers, was liberally exercised. The Peers, both from habit and from interest, will always be found more attached to the crown. The remedy is, therefore, at all times, easy and obvious.

No new regulations were adopted with regard to American commerce. The same intolerant spirit seemed to prevail in most of the United States against all who had borne arms against them, or come under the protection of the British troops, and served to counteract the dilatory conduct of England, in providing proper settlements for the numerous exiles who sought shelter in Nova-Scotia.

The definitive treaty between this country and the States-General was signed at Paris, instead of being concluded at London or the Hague. This was a concession which the former ministry refused to make, and shewed the influence of France over the councils of that once haughty republic.

Though the ministry had experienced no decline of popularity in England, it was hardly possible that they should be equally successful in Ireland. But though the rejection of the long agitated question of parliamentary reform, the refusal of protecting duties, and the distress of the poor in most parts of the kingdom, had excited murmurs against their system of government, complimentary addresses were voted to the Lord-Lieutenant by both Houses of parliament.

The Turks, partly by unlimited concessions, and partly by the expert negotiations of France, had diverted for a time the torrent of war, that threatened to overwhelm their tottering and unwieldy empire. The Empress of Russia was busy in improving the advantages she had gained.

The Emperor of Germany was prosecuting, with liberal and steady policy, the cultivation and improvement of his extensive dominions, and gradually stripping the Dutch of the emblems of their former greatness; while the great Frederick, *senevuti nescius cedere*, was still on his guard, armed and watchful, and overawing their internal dissensions by the terrors of his resentment.

France, with her characteristic diligence and ardour, was restoring her finances, re-establishing her marine, extending her commerce, interpoling in the disputes of her neighbours, and neglecting no means to attain the great object of her ambition, a pre-eminence over the other nations of Europe.

An inconsiderable revolution had taken place in the administration of Denmark; and Sweden was sunk into that dejected state of tranquillity, which generally succeeds the total oppression of a free government.

Such was the situation of things at the opening of the session on the 18th of May, 1784.

The Commons being summoned to attend his Majesty in the House of Peers, were remanded, as usual, to their own House, to choose a fit person to be their Speaker. Their choice fell unanimously on the Right Hon. Charles Wolfran Cornwall, their late Speaker. Mr. Fox hailed as a happy omen, that the Speaker of the last parliament, which posterity, he said, would pronounce the most glorious that had ever met in this country, had been called to the chair by the friends of administration; and, giving way to his natural impetuosity, he arraigned in the severest terms the conduct of the high-bailiff, in having refused to make any return of members for Westminster. He observed that the representation being thus incomplete, it might even be urged that the House was incompetent to the choice of a Speaker, and that, if the returning officer for Rye (the place for which Mr. Cornwall sits) had acted in as unbecoming a manner as the high-bailiff of Westminster, the House must have been deprived of the abilities of the gentleman, who was acknowledged the best qualified to fill the chair. The ceremony of conducting the Speaker to the chair concluded the business of the day.

May 19. The Commons being again summoned to attend his Majesty in the House of Peers, and the ceremony of presenting the Speaker being ended, his Majesty opened the business of the session by the following most gracious speech from the throne:

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I Have the greatest satisfaction in meeting you in parliament at this time, after recurring, in so important a moment, to the sense of my people. I have a just and confident reliance, that you are animated with the same sentiments of loyalty, and the same attachment to our excellent constitution, which I have had the happiness to see so fully manifested in every part of the kingdom. The happy effects of such a disposition will, I doubt not, appear in the temper and wisdom of your deliberations, and in the dispatch of the important objects of public business which demand your attention. It will afford me peculiar pleasure to find that the exercise of the power, entrusted to me by the constitution, has been productive of consequences so beneficial to my subjects, whose interest and welfare are always nearest my heart.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"I Have ordered the estimates for the current year to be laid before you; and I trust to your zeal and affection to make such provisions for their further supply, and for the application of the sums granted in the last parliament, as may appear to be necessary.

"I sincerely lament every addition to the burthens of my people; but they will, I am persuaded, feel the necessity, after a long and expensive war, of effectually providing for the maintenance of the national faith and our public credit, so essential to the power and prosperity of the state.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"The alarming progress of frauds in the revenue, accompanied in so many instances with violence, will not fail on every account to excite your attention. I must, at the same time, recommend

recommend to your most serious consideration, to frame such commercial regulations as may appear immediately necessary in the present moment. The affairs of the *East-India* Company form an object of deliberation deeply connected with the general interests of the country. While you feel a just anxiety to provide for the good government of our possessions in that part of the world, you will, I trust, never lose sight of the effect which any measure to be adopted for that purpose may have on our own constitution, and our dearest interests at home. You will find me always desirous to concur with you in such measures as may be of lasting benefit to my people: I have no wish but to consult their prosperity, by a constant attention to every object of national concern, by an uniform adherence to the true principles of our free constitution, and by supporting and maintaining, in their just balance, the rights and privileges of every branch of the legislature."

His Majesty being withdrawn, Lord Maclesfield rose to move an address of thanks. He recapitulated the circumstances which led to the dissolution of parliament; expatiated on the popularity of the ministry, descanted on the merits of the King's speech, touched on the different topics of it, and concluded with moving an address, which, as usual, re-echoed the sentiments it contained.

Lord Falmouth seconded the motion, bestowed a panegyric on administration, and expressed his full confidence in them.

Lord Fitzwilliam could by no means concur with that part of it, which thanked his Majesty for the late dissolution of parliament. He thought the exercise of the royal prerogative, at the period of the dissolution, unnecessary and unwarrantable; but having no desire to disturb the unanimity of the House, he forbore to propose an amendment.

In the House of Commons, the time was taken up in swearing in the members, and other necessary forms, till Monday,

May 24, When the Westminster election, as a matter of privilege, became the first object of discussion. Mr. Lee introduced the business. He contended that the high-bailiff, according to act of parliament, ought to have made his return immediately on the final close of the poll, notwithstanding a scrutiny had been demanded by Sir Cecil Wray, and quoted several statutes to confirm this doctrine; and that, if any candidate thought himself aggrieved, the legal mode of address was by a petition to the House. On these grounds, he thought the conduct of the high-bailiff culpable, and, therefore, moved, in substance, that Thomas Corbett, Esq. high-bailiff of Westminster, ought to have returned two members for that city, on or before the 18th of May, 1784.—In support of this motion, it was argued by Lord North, Mr. Fox, and Sir Thomas Davenport, that to delay the return was contrary to the established law of the land; that it was the duty of the returning officer to see that no unqualified persons voted at the election; that, in this instance, a scrutiny was merely an appeal from Thomas Corbett to Thomas Corbett, who had no better means of determining on the legality of votes, than during the election; that a decision of such moment ought not to be

trusted to the returning officer, who might be influenced or prejudiced; and, lastly, that his authority expired on the 18th of the month, when the writ was returnable, from which time he had no more right to interpose with his opinion than any other individual.

On the other hand, it was urged by Sir Lloyd Kenyon, Lord Mahon, Mr. Pitt, and the Attorney-General, that previous to passing a vote of censure, the person accused ought to be heard in his defence; that it was incumbent on the House, according to every principle of equity and justice, to hear the high-bailiff's reasons for acting as he had done; that a case might occur, in which the returning officer might be justified in delaying the return; that, since a scrutiny had been demanded, it was his duty to grant it; that the poll having been continued till the very eve of the meeting of parliament, constituted a new case, and might justify a new mode of procedure; and that the returning officer was not *functus officio* when the writ became returnable. Sir Lloyd Kenyon having moved the previous question, it was carried by 283 against 136.

This point being settled, Mr. Lee moved, "That the high-bailiff be ordered to appear at the bar of the House on the morrow," which was agreed to.

The Speaker then called the attention of the House to his Majesty's speech, which being read, the Hon. Mr. Hamilton amplified on the various topics upon which it touched. He dwelt on his Majesty's paternal attention to the sentiments of his people on the late dissolution. It had become absolutely necessary to dissolve a House of Commons which, in opposition to the sentiments of the nation, and the principles of the constitution, patronized the views, and countenanced the measures of men who had rendered themselves equally obnoxious to the prince and to the people. He trusted that the present House of Commons would justify, by their patriotic conduct, the decision of a gracious sovereign in so important a crisis. He launched forth into an encomium on the present minister, and concluded with moving, "That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to thank him for his most gracious speech from the throne, and to express the satisfaction and gratitude of the House, that in the exercise of the powers vested in him by the constitution his Majesty had been graciously pleased to recur to the sense of his people, at a conjuncture when the situation of public affairs called loudly for such an exertion."

Sir William Molesworth seconded the motion.

Lord Surrey wished that ministers had come forward with such an address as might have passed unanimously; but he could not assent to that part of it, which thanked his Majesty for the late dissolution; nor could he join in the praises of men, who had prostituted the royal name, in a manner unprecedented, and crept into power by means which a virtuous House of Commons had reprobated. A dissolution of parliament under the present extended influence of the crown, and the state of the constituent body, was no appeal to the people. It was only an appeal to royal influence, and to desolated towns. He saw, therefore, no necessity for the exercise of that prerogative, and moved to leave out the clause in the address, expressive

of thanks to his Majesty for the late dissolution. Colonel North seconded the motion for the amendment.

Mr. Powys saw nothing in his Majesty's speech which called for such an expression of thanks. It would have been more manly in ministers to have brought the question distinctly and fairly before the House, and not in this oblique manner. After thanking his Majesty, it would be impossible to refuse an act of indemnity to ministers, for having advised a dissolution.

Lord Delaval had formerly opposed the minister, because he conceived he had come into office by indirect means; and he would now support him, because he was convinced that he enjoyed the confidence of the people.

Lord North said, that, regarded as a matter of convenience to themselves, ministers were not to be blamed for the dissolution; but it was a dangerous precedent to establish, that ministers might adopt a measure of such danger and importance, merely for their own convenience.

Mr. Fox considered calling upon those who

had sitted in the last parliament to subscribe their own condemnation; by thanking his Majesty for the dissolution of it, as an arrogant and indecent exercise of triumph. He defended the India bill, the source of his unpopularity, and exulted in having been the author of it. He charged ministers with having broken the royal word, and of having promised one thing to the House, while they intended another. He warned Mr. Pitt of the uncertainty of majorities, and cautioned him against an insolent use of his victory.

Mr. Pitt would not consent to purchase unanimity by veiling the question, on which the House was as competent to decide, on that day, as it could be at any future time. If any trifling irregularity should hereafter be discovered in the conduct of the dissolution, the present address would, no doubt, preclude any censure for such irregularity; but it would not prevent any capital criminality from being fully investigated, and punished with all due severity. The amendment was negatived by 282 against 114.

IRISH REPRESENTATION.

(Continued from our last, page 281.)

FRIENDLY HINTS TO THE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARY REFORM IN IRELAND.

BY THOMAS NORTHCOTE.

S I R,

I have just now perused with infinite satisfaction the Duke of Richmond's truly admirable, and, in my opinion, unanswerable letter to Colonel Sharman of the Lisburne Volunteers. My own ideas on this important subject have the honour, as far as they go, to coincide with his Grace's general principles, and decisive plans.

The enclosed thoughts, thrown out in consequence of Dr. Price's letter, after so elaborate a performance as the noble writer's, must appear to great disadvantage; but, as we see objects in different points of view, some new argument or useful hint may arise in the most casual and imperfect production of men who are used to think for themselves.

The rights which our common Creator made inherent in, and unalienable from our nature, as free, moral agents, cannot lawfully by any delegated authority be taken from us, or *granted* to us. It is, therefore, giving up the point of right to petition usurped powers for the exercise of such rights. It involves gross absurdities and contradictions, in making the prior and original right, to depend upon the authority which is subordinate and derived, and the natural powers which belong to all men to be at the disposal of a few.

Dr. Price, in this letter, seems to have forsaken his old ground of general principles, to offer incense to expedience, and resign the great body of the people a sacrifice to the interest and the safety of an aristocracy. From the elevated philosopher and patriot he appears to sink into the state partizan, when on the greatest occasion that could flatter the liberal mind, and elevate the ideas, he stoops to adopt the selfish maxims of partial reformation in this corrupt and slavish kingdom, to apply them to an armed

nation, able to perfect its government upon the true principles of the constitution, and to fix it in future on a basis of election right, too extended and firm to be shaken. To a nation thus situated, it was enough to say to armed citizens, Gentlemen, you command the fate of your country—If you are armed *for the people*, restore to every man the rights of nature, which cannot be lawfully withheld from any—The man who *eats* and is *clothed* at his own expence, pays taxes; and, by his labour and industry, however humble his lot, is an useful member of the community—who shall dare to *unman* him, or by what authority to reduce him to vassalage, to brutality, by depriving him of his natural inheritance, the dignity of a man, the honour of a citizen?

If such a line of exclusion could be drawn against particular classes and descriptions of men, it must be only by the great majority of the nation. But who will presume to draw this line of civil excommunication against the great majority itself? For it is evident that being thus outlawed and proscribed by power, they could owe the government no obedience; but might be justified in meeting the law of power with the right of self-defence. Having no lot or portion in the laws or government, they are not ruled as free men; and there is no power in this state that can treat them as the vassals and instruments of other men's interest or ambition. Under such circumstances, a general revolt of all the non-electors, and unrepresented, could not be deemed treason or rebellion, since the government with regard to them would be tyranny, as being not only unprotected, but violated in their equal rights of men and citizens.

As no man can be supposed originally to enter into society under the stigma of such an exclu-

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sion from the community, so no one can be bound to continue under it who has the virtue to assert his dignity with his rights. And when a nation, long groaning under the oppression of partial civil rights, hath the means of full redress in its hands, shall we insinuate the slow poison of a frigid caution, to chill the ardour of virtuous enterprize, and frustrate a glorious reformation, by leaving it ineffectual? A work like this must be carried equally out of the reach of treachery, and of power. It must go all lengths, or it is lost. It must trample tyranny and corruption under foot, or it will be the scorn and derision of government. Prudential maxims of *practical reforms* may suit a Yorkshire committee (for Englishmen, shame upon them! are only *beggars of rights*) but for a nation where wisdom hath adopted strength, and perfection is within the grasp of valour, a single chance must not be left in the power of fate, were it possible to prevent it. A single vote must not be lost: for such is the vigilant and encroaching nature of power, that every inch of political ground, not already occupied and guarded by the people, is instantly seized and fortified by their oppressors. Free subjects are never safe, but when they have suffrages to guard their rights, and arms to defend their suffrages. An Englishman, without a *vote* or a *musket*, is stripped more naked and defenceless than the savage in the desert. Both his person and property are always open to violation. It is high time then that this great fundamental principle of liberty and the constitution should be asserted and established in the three kingdoms upon the equal claims of freemen and citizens, instead of those partial franchises and qualifications which have been arbitrarily substituted in the room of natural rights, to defeat the gift of God, and deface his image in the moral and social freedom of rational beings. Until this be effected, it is the vainest of all vain hopes to expect that representation will ever be so far reformed as to answer its only great end in producing an incorruptible parliament, and a virtuous government. Will they who have usurped the power over the public purse quit their hold without a desperate struggle, like all other robbers? Shall we in such a case rely upon petitions or upon pistols? America hath beaten off the freebooters, and goes now about her business without molestation. Ireland has nearly rescued herself from foreign and domestic spoilers; while North's Bagshot gang continues as usual to bully poor Old England out of her money and her freedom.

They reprobate all reformation as innovation; and when tyranny becomes established government, innovation is the most mortal sin against it, although without innovation the most civilized kingdoms of Europe had been as savage as the wilds of Africa or America. But the truth is, every thing is dangerous to the state that

is so to ministers, or to those who contend for the power. Even a Burke, who boasts of his philanthropy and love of liberty, would have bound America to unlimited subjection. He hath published his doubts, whether statutes enacted by the people's deputies may not bind the very consciences of their masters? And he holds septennial parliaments to be a fundamental of the constitution, of which they are the grave, because "the permanent virtue of the whole house of Cavendish" continues to defend what the treason of their ancestor usurped. The English of all which is, that he, and all such adventurers for the power and the plunder of the people, had rather have the honour and benefit of *taking care of them*, than resign to them such usurped powers as would enable them effectually to *take care of themselves*; and consequently to get rid of all such knavish intruders upon their rights, privileges, and property. It would be difficult to say whether this man's hypocrisy, or a North's barefaced tyranny, reflect the greater credit on the alliance.

With regard to Catholics voting in Ireland for representatives, they are the best judges who live among them as neighbours and fellow-citizens. Certainly, no man ought to be persecuted for his religion, unless his religion be intolerant to others. Nothing can, or ought to disqualify him from exercising the rights of a man and a citizen, but his having actually resigned his own judgement and will, and consequently his freedom, to the guidance and direction of others, who may abuse the trust to the public detriment. In that case, not being a free agent, but the puppet of other movers, he could have no reason to complain of his own voluntary exclusion. Self-preservation is the first duty and concern of the individual and the community. Men who will not do in the like case as they are done by are certainly not entitled upon any principle of policy, of common-sense, or justice, to exercise the privileges of a community. There may be exceptions from the general rule, of which they are to judge who risk the indulgence. Let the free, honest, and good citizen be indemnified from the abuse of his liberal confidence, and not a doubt can remain about the equal rights of all to enjoy this great public benefit, which renders every man the guardian of his person, family, and property. And this I take to be the true line of conduct with regard to the civil rights and privileges of Papists under a Protestant government—In a word, I consider the extension of election rights beyond the possible reach of corrupt influence from any quarter, to be the only effectual barrier of liberty and the constitution against every mode of attack.

I am, Sir, your very humble servant,
THOMAS NORTHCOTE.
Oct. 15, 1783.

LETTERS BY JOHN CARTWRIGHT, ESQ. TO LIEUT. COL. SHARMAN.

S I R,

AS an anxious friend to the cause of a parliamentary reform, in which both Ireland and England are equally interested, I trust you

will excuse the freedom I use in addressing you on this occasion. I cannot doubt but that the principles of the constitution, and that the means necessary

necessary to restore freedom to the people, as well as purity to parliament, are well known to the gentlemen who in Ireland have taken a leading part in this great work: but yet, as amongst others of their countrymen, that knowledge may not be so generally diffused as might be wished, and as the humblest essays in that line may be of some use, I have taken the liberty to order some copies of different tracts, which have employed my pen, to be directed to you at Lisburn, for the disposal of the Committee of Correspondence, over which you preside; the acceptance of which on their part I should esteem a particular honour.

In those writings I have thought it my duty to adhere inflexibly to what appeared to me to be the rights of men; and much thought has convinced me, that in proportion as those rights shall be departed from, the reform itself will not only be clogged with difficulties and inconsistencies in the execution, but that, when accomplished, it will proportionally fail in its proposed effects. I confess that in England we have not yet had, at any period, a prospect of effecting a complete reform; but in Ireland, your volunteer army—the most glorious production of public virtue that ever adorned a nation!—have perfection or imperfection wholly in their option. The conduct of that army has hitherto manifested too much wisdom and too much patriotism to leave it doubtful which choice it will make. It would ill suit with the splendour of what is past, that a reform in the parliament of Ireland should bear marks of material defectiveness. Such an event would greatly lessen that dignity of character to which she hath attained, and which I trust she means to transmit to latest posterity, by henceforth securing equal justice to her citizens, and to her parliament that purity which alone can insure the permanency of her freedom and her glory.

A close adherence to the genuine principles of freedom would introduce into her elections, as well as into the frame of her representative body, that which surpasses all human inventions for guarding against the insinuating properties of corruption: I mean simplicity. In providing for the purity of a parliament, every thing depends on the elections; and the freedom of elections rests on these two pillars:—1st, The multitude of electors; and 2dly, The short duration of power. These two principles necessarily conduct us to universality of suffrage, and parliaments of a single session; and so sacred, in my humble opinion, are these rights, that on no account or pretence whatever can they become the subject of voluntary concession. It is time enough to accept of any thing short of these rights, when attainment is impossible, or the contest not attended with any hope of success. These, however, are cases which the magnanimity of Ireland has not left applicable to her. How, then, can she act as though they were. She cannot. Her honour demands of her a complete enfranchisement. A free state, without free citizens, is a solecism in terms. But it is worse than a solecism. It is folly; it is corruption; it is misery; it is disgrace. It is freedom to vice, and chains to virtue.

What has occurred to me as expedient to add to the essentials above noticed will be seen at large in the several details of which I have treated in the barrier; but as one of those expedients appears to me to merit a distinguished preference to the rest, I will trespass a moment longer on your time, to say a few words upon it. The ballot is that to which I allude. It has its enemies. Their arguments certainly deserve attention. I have heard, I believe, the most forcible; and with much truth can say, that I considered them with the utmost impartiality. At one time, indeed, I was prepared to renounce the idea as publicly as I had before expressed myself in its favour. I returned, however, to my original opinion, and with additional decision of mind. To this latter change of sentiment conversations with Mr. Laurens not a little contributed. From him I learned that in South-Carolina the ballot in their elections was introduced about forty years ago; that its good effects were immediately observable, that it was ever afterwards considered as a wise measure, and that it was thought to have been particularly serviceable during the most critical periods of the late revolution in that country. These proofs of its happy effects instantly outweighed all that I had heard advanced of its tending to abate the virtue and courage necessary to freedom. I have since been further confirmed in my favourable opinion of the ballot, by numerous conversations with tenants and tradesmen; who, for the most part, have laid even as much stress upon this security, as upon the other two; nay, more.

With respect to the universality of suffrage, it may perhaps be observed, that the states of America, in their new constitutions, have thought fit to require qualifications. But, although I reverence the wisdom so conspicuous in those constitutions, I cannot, however, admire any rules in practice, which contradict the noblest and clearest of their political reasonings, and which needlessly violate the eternal principles of truth and justice. In sterling money, some of their qualifications are not equal to ten shillings a-year. So trifling an exclusion is the very nonsense of inveterate prejudice.

Since there can be no union between two countries on terms of entire equality, and for a common interest, unless both those countries are equally free, I trust that the friends of the constitution, in both Ireland and England, will hold a regular intercourse, and consider a reform in their respective legislatures as a common cause. I hope, too, they will each have their society for constitutional information, and that those societies will correspond and co-operate in their generous scheme.

With that high respect which is due to one who is chosen to preside where all are great, and with my warmest prayers to the Author of all good, that he may give you success in your efforts to establish his laws of human government, I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your well wisher,

JOHN CARTWRIGHT.

Marnham, Aug. 26, 1783.

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C H E M I S T R Y.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

I Have observed in your Magazine for January last some remarks by an anonymous writer on Mr. Henry of Manchester's method of preserving water at sea. A proper sense of Mr. Henry's merit, and a desire of rendering service to the community, by investigating a subject of material consequence to our navy, have induced me to offer my sentiments on this subject. I hope you will do me the favour to insert them in your useful work.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Manchester, March, 1784.

CHARLES TAYLOR.

MR. HENRY, of Manchester, in 1781 published an ingenious essay on a method of preserving water at sea. It consists in adding to such water as may require to be long kept quick-lime, in the proportion of two pounds to one hundred and twenty gallons of water, and precipitating the calcareous earth when the water is wanted for use, by impregnating it with fixed air separated from marble or chalk, by the diluted acid of vitriol.

The process may naturally be considered under two heads: 1st, The preservation of the water from putrefaction by the antiseptic influence of the quick-lime. 2dly, The means of rendering the water potable by separating the lime originally dissolved therein.

The first part of the process has been so well discussed by Dr. Alston, Dr. Macbride, Mr. Henry, and others, and not being disputed in the remarks I allude to, I think the fact ought to be admitted.

In respect to the second part of the process, I beg leave to enter more minutely into the subject, referring my readers to your Magazine for January last for the particulars, by which it is asserted *Mr. Henry's theory did not hold good in practice.*

The author of those remarks observes: *if, indeed, just so much fixed air could be added as would be sufficient to precipitate the lime, the water would be fit for use, but THAT POINT it would be very difficult in ordinary practice to hit.* This is certainly confirming, rational.

LOND. MAG. May 1784.

ther than refuting Mr. Henry's theory, and only points out an apparent difficulty in the practice, which in reality is no greater than in any common culinary preparation. The taste of the liquor, from time to time, will be a certain criterion when the operation is complete.

But we will suppose the operator has no taste at all, in order to give place to the next objection made by the author of those remarks: that *if the water be further impregnated with fixed air it will dissolve the lime which had just been precipitated, and a nauseous liquor will be produced, which, as a common beverage, will be unwholesome.*—Respecting this assertion I shall proceed to deliver my sentiments.

That the water over-saturated with fixed air will dissolve a small part of what was originally quick-lime I will allow; but it must be considered that it is then in a very different state from lime, being deprived of its acrimony, and reduced to the state of a mild calcareous earth, resembling common chalk.

The purest spring or river water (and such is but seldom obtained for sea service) is always impregnated with heterogeneous substances. On ship-board it speedily runs into the putrefactive fermentation, smells and tastes very offensively, and frequently swarms with myriads of insects. It is in this state generally drunk by the greatest number of the crew, introducing into the animal system a putrid ferment, productive of the scurvy, and other dreadful disorders.

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This circumstance has engaged the attention of various naval powers.—The French government, in their directions for preserving the health of their seamen, have adopted the use of quick-lime in the water used at sea, adding at the time it is drawn off for use some vinegar.

I have heard well authenticated instances in the Guinea trade, where water impregnated with quick-lime, without any correction, has been used as the common beverage of the ship, in preference to the common water of the ship, and that the crew were more healthy than usual.

I have only advanced the above instances to prove, that even if a redundancy of calcareous earth or quick-lime is suspended in the water, it will not be unwholesome in comparison with the water usually made use of at sea. The water prepared by Mr. Henry's method is perfectly transparent and colourless; retains little or no calcareous earth if properly impregnated with fixed air; and, as a gentleman who has been much at sea observed to me on tasting some I had prepared myself from lime-water, agreeably to Mr. Henry's method, it would be a luxury at sea, which would bring a blessing on its author.

To determine the effects of combining with water and fixed air as much calcareous earth as could possibly be held in solution, I recalcined in a crucible eight ounces of quick-lime: whilst red hot I threw it into two quarts of spring water; and when the water became clear, and very caustic, I poured about a quart of the clear liquor into one of the glass machines made by Mr. Parker for the purpose of impregnating water with fixed air. On supplying the liquor with fixed air from powdered marble and the acid of vitriol the calcareous earth began to precipitate copiously. I continued for three days to throw in large quantities of fixed air, in order to redissolve as much of the calcareous earth as possible; however, a small quantity only of the calcareous earth was redissolved, though I frequently violently agitated the vessel. I tasted the liquor from

time to time; it was very strongly impregnated with fixed air, and had a peculiar taste, which I imputed to the calcareous earth redissolved in the water; but even in this state, in which it may be considered under every disadvantage which the ignorance or inattention of seamen might make it liable to, it was infinitely superior to water which I have drunk at sea even in short voyages.

On evaporating the liquor in glass vessels to dryness, it yielded only a small quantity of impalpable powder, with little, but rather inclining to an acid taste. This suggested to me a circumstance which I think will merit an enquiry: whether a greater quantity of fixed air is not retained in water containing a small quantity of mild calcareous earth than can be retained in any other liquid proper for medicinal exhibition? and whether the peculiar taste of the above-mentioned liquor is not owing to a concentration of the fixed air, rather than the earthy matter?

The author of the remarks in your Magazine further declares: *Mr. Henry says that the water being impregnated with more fixed air than is necessary to precipitate the lime will be an excellent antiscorbutic, and of course, besides a wholesome beverage, will prevent and even cure the sea scurvy. This is a proof he never made the experiment.* This declaration I believe is not to be found in Mr. Henry's essay, and I am at a loss to think what could have been the motive of the author of the remarks to adduce such an assertion as a proof that Mr. H. never made the experiment.—That Mr. H. has frequently made it, I and many others in this town can evince, from having been repeatedly personally present.

Though I do not recollect that Mr. Henry has made the declaration above-mentioned, yet that Mr. H. might have done it with great justice I shall next endeavour to prove.

Dr. Hales first, and Dr. Macbride since, in his excellent paper on the power of antiseptics, draws the following conclusion from his experiments: viz. that putrefaction ensues in consequence

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quence of the escape of fixed air; therefore, whatsoever hath the power to restrain the flight of this element, or hinder the intestine motion, must of course prevent putrefaction.

This doctrine seems fully confirmed by the health of the sailors in the late long voyages in the southern hemisphere, and other distant parts; where the precautions in consequence of it have been used, and have pointed out that fixed air, in every method in which it hath been hitherto admitted and retained in the animal system, checks putrefaction.

The experiments of Dr. Black, Dr. Priestley, Dr. Percival, Dr. Macbride, Mr. Henry, in his experiments and observations on various subjects, and other authors, prove the antiseptic powers of fixed air; and that the fixed air of animal, vegetable, and mineral substances is of the same nature.

It has been long known that a small quantity of calcareous earth may be dissolved in water by means of much fixed air, yet I do not recollect a single instance in which it has, from this circumstance, been considered unwholesome.

How far this water may be like the mineral water of Rathbone-Place I cannot determine, having never tasted that water.

The author of the remarks further observes: *Mr. Henry might have recollected that Dr. Hulme's method of dissolving the stone depends on this very super-saturation of calcareous earth with fixed air, by which it is rendered soluble in aqueous vehicles. This will account sufficiently for Mr. Henry's method not having been adopted by the lords of the Ad-*

miralty.—I believe Mr. H. was acquainted with the effects of fixed air on the human calculus long before Dr. Hulme published on the subject. The idea was first indirectly communicated to Mr. Henry by Dr. Saunders, and Dr. Percival published his experiments, some of which were made at his request in Mr. Henry's own house by Mr. Smith, of Newington, who was then his pupil, long before Dr. Hulme's treatise appeared.

How the above may have influenced the lords of the Admiralty not to adopt Mr. H.'s method, I cannot see; nor did I ever hear that they had made any material objection against it, or given it a fair trial. I have not the honour of being so well known to any of them as to ask the question. I wish, for the satisfaction of the public, the experiment might be tried on board some of the East-India ships, or others. The late dreadful ravages made by the scurvy on board the fleet under Commodore King sufficiently indicate the necessity of making it.

I fear I may have already trespassed too far on your paper, I shall, therefore, only add the following hints; that when the water is super-saturated with fixed air, its taste, if disagreeable to any person, may in general be corrected by exposure for some time to the atmosphere, or by the addition of some more of the lime-water not impregnated with fixed air. In the first case, the fixed air flies off; in the last, it is absorbed, and precipitates with the calcareous earth. I refer the public to Mr. Henry's ingenious essay for a fuller explanation of the process. It appears to me clear and satisfactory.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE OIL OF VITRIOL.

BY M. DESAIVE, DE LA SOCIETE D'EMULATION, DE LIEGE.

Translated from L'Esprit des Journeaux.

IT is long since the celebrated Gaubius, professor of chemistry in the university of Leyden, complained that in general oil of vitriol, if in any great quantity, was not pure enough to serve for those chemical operations in which the vitriolic acid should be employed.

He, therefore, recommends the redistillation of it, in order to separate it from the substances which diminish its purity. By the process of this learned chemist it appears, that on the redistillation of oil of vitriol, he found vitriol of zinc, ferrugineous vitriol,

and a species of alum. He does not, however, mention the exact quantities*.

M. Macquer observes, " that the vitriolic acid which is now sold wholesale at a low price is quite impure, not only on account of the enormous quantity of lime, lead, and nitrous acid, but also by many other heterogeneous substances with which it is mixed, which is very injurious to the manufactories for which it is intended; and what is worse, since these acids have been introduced into trade in large quantities, it is very rare that we find this acid prepared in the old method of distillation, after which the chemists could easily, by one rectification, bring the vitriol to that degree of purity which is absolutely necessary for exactness in operations. It is, indeed, very much to be wished that a house should be established for the preparation of oil of vitriol after the ancient manner, even although the price should be much greater than that of the adulterated vitriol, for which it is neglected."

I have seen oil of vitriol bought in Holland which had at least the sixth part of its weight a sharp tasted, saline, crystallized substance. This oil of vitriol, though in appearance very concentrated, acted weakly on indigo, and occasioned less heat with water than that of England. I have found by different experiments that they had added to it a neutral salt with earthy basis, which being dissolved in vitriolic acid, without altering its transparency increased its weight according to the quantity which was put in. The other heterogeneous matters which generally alter the pureness of the oil of vitriol are found in it, through the fault of the men who are employ-

ed in the preparation of the vitriolic acid in large quantities. These workmen do not pay proper attention when they kindle the matter which is to be deflagrated, in order to lay the hot iron in the middle of the vessel that contains the mixture; on the contrary, they pass it all over its surface, by which means part of it is thrown into the liquor. We are confident also, that as each distiller of oil of vitriol pretends to have a particular secret in the composition of that acid, it happens that their oils of vitriol are differently adulterated. That in which white lead is discovered has certainly been prepared with that metal.

Notwithstanding these observations, which are necessary to give an advantageous idea of the purity of oils of vitriol of commerce in general, we do not make the proper distinction between these and the vitriolic acid prepared in certain manufactories with all the precautions which sound theory suggests, in order to render this operation of a certain practice, and to make the products pure enough for those operations in which it is daily employed. That which is produced in the manufactories of Liege deserves a particular preference, because it possesses those qualities which characterize the good oil of vitriol. It is purer, more concentrated, and more transparent than that of many other manufactories. We ought to mention that till now the artists of Liege have made use of ballons and tubes of glass to separate the sulphur, and to concentrate the acid which it produces; and it is far from being suspected of containing white lead. The skill also with which the artists conduct their operations does not contribute a little to the pureness of their oil of vitriol.

* Consult on this subject *Nonnulla de Oleo Vitrioli. Adversaria varii argument. Caput. ix.*

M A T H E M A T I C S.

ANSWERS TO MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

36. QUESTION (I. Jan.) answered by Mr. JA. WILLIAMS, of Plymouth Dock

THE given equation is readily resolved into $\overline{x-2} \times x \times \overline{x+2} \times \overline{x+4} = a$, = $x^2 + 2x - 8 \times x^2 + 2x = x^2 + 2x \sqrt{-8 \times x^2 + 2x}$, a quadratic equation; which being resolved, gives $x^2 + 2x = 4 \pm \sqrt{a+16}$, a quadratic equation likewise: and this

this being again resolved gives $x = -1 \pm \sqrt{5 \pm \sqrt{a+16}}$, an expression which exhibits the four values of x , required.

S C H O L I U M.

If b be written instead of 2 in the first of the equations given above, we shall have a general expression for the continual product of four numbers in arithmetical progression, of which the product and common difference are given; and the value of x resulting from that expression will be $-\frac{b}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{5b^2}{4} \pm \sqrt{a+b^4}}$.

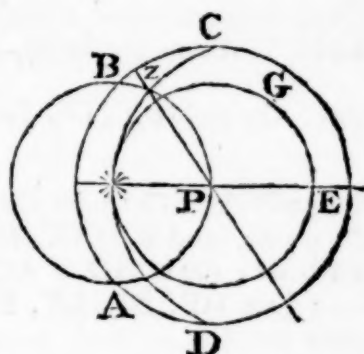
This question was also answered by *Caput Mortuum*, *Taffo*, the proposer, and Mr. James Webb.

37. QUESTION (II. Jan.) answered by Mr. JAMES WEBB, the proposer.

This question being rather obscurely expressed, we received no answers to it but the following, and one from Mr. James Williams. It ought to have stood thus: "In what latitude will the star Arcturus have its azimuth the greatest possible when the altitude is $38^\circ 43'$."

P R O J E C T I O N.

Describe the primitive circle ABCD to represent the equinoctial; also with the semi-tangent of the polar distance of Arcturus, describe its parallel of declination *GE, in which suppose the star to be at *. Describe the great circle C*D to touch this parallel in *, and round *, as a pole, at the distance of $51^\circ 17'$, the given zenith distance of the star, describe the small circle BZA, cutting C*D in Z, the zenith of the place required; and if ZP be drawn it will be the complement of the latitude sought.



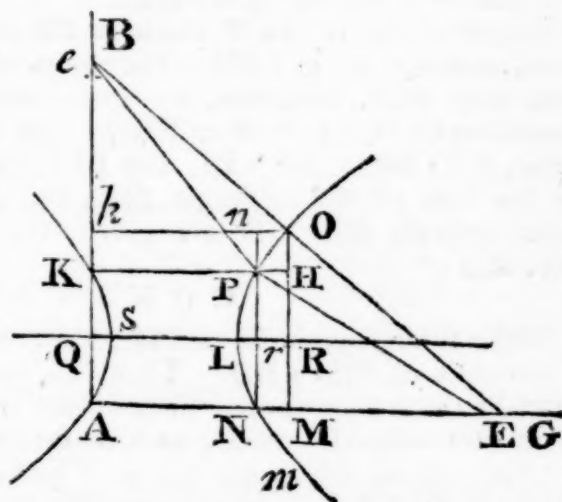
C A L C U L A T I O N.

In the right angled triangle P*Z, as radius is to the cosine of P* ($69^\circ 40'$) so is the cosine of Z* ($51^\circ 17'$) to the sine of $12^\circ 33'$, the latitude sought.

38. QUESTION (III. Jan.) answered by Mr. GEORGE SANDERSON.

From the given point P draw PK and PN perpendicular to AB and AG; draw Ee, and bisect it in O; join PO, and describe rectangles AMOk, ANnk, AMHK: also draw QR to bisect AK and HM in the points Q and R.

Because Ee is bisected in O, and EP = eP, PO is perpendicular to Ee, ek = OM, = nN; and kO = HK, = ME: the triangles OME and OPn (= POH) are, therefore, similar. Hence OM (= nN) : On (= PH) :: ME (= Ok = HK) : nP (= OH). Therefore, nO x Ok = Pn x nN, = OH x OM, = PH x HK; or, by making Mm = OH, OH x Hm, = PH x HK; consequently, the points m, N, P, O, and A, K, are in an equilateral hyperbola, whose principle axe is QR, by Emerson's Conics, B. II. Theor. 37, or the locus of the point O, the middles of E, e; c, C, &c. is an equilateral hyperbola. If the radii PE, Pe, PC, Pc, &c. be less than AP the opposite hyperbola, KA is the locus of the point O.



REMARK I. If the given point be in one of the given lines, that line will be the principal axis of the curve, the given point P will be the vertex, and A the vertex of the opposite hyperbola.

REMARK

REMARK II: If a line, joining the given point P, and A, the point of concurrence of the two given lines, bisect the angle GAB, it is manifest that line will be the locus required in that case: and, moreover, the center of the hyperbola will always bisect this line.

An algebraical Answer to the same, by Mr. THOMAS TODD, the proposer.

Let $NA, = PK, = nk, = a$; $HM, = PN, = KA, = b$; $OM, = kA, = y$; $MA, = HK, = Ok = x$; and, by the question, $EO = eO$: then $EM = MA$, and $ek = kA$. Moreover, $Kk, = HO, = y - b$; $MN, = HP, = x - a$; $EN = 2x - a$; $eK = 2y - b$. Then, *Euc.* I. 47, $eK^2 + KP^2, = PN^2 + NE^2$; that is, $4y^2 - 4by + b^2 + a^2 = 4x^2 - 4ax + a^2 + b^2$; or $y^2 - by = x^2 - ax$, an equation to the equilateral hyperbola; the principal axes of which are $\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$. For, by completing the square, $x = \frac{1}{2}a + \sqrt{y^2 - by + \frac{1}{4}a^2}$; which, when x becomes $= LQ$, and consequently $y = RM, = \frac{1}{2}b, = \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$, and $Lr, = QS, = Qr - QL, = \frac{1}{2}a - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$. Consequently, $SL (Qr - QS - Lr, = Qr - 2Lr) = \sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$. Moreover by a property common to all hyperbolas, $\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 - b^2} \times \frac{1}{2}a - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{a^2 - b^2} (Sr \times Lr) : \frac{b^2}{4} (rN^2) :: a^2 - b^2 (SL^2) : a^2 - b^2$, the square of the conjugate axis, which is therefore $= \sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$.

Elegant geometrical solutions were given to this problem by Mr. Isaac Dalby, and Mr. William Richards, of Chacewater, in Cornwall.

39. QUESTION (IV. Jan.) answered by Mr. ISAAC DALBY, the proposer.

ANALYSIS.

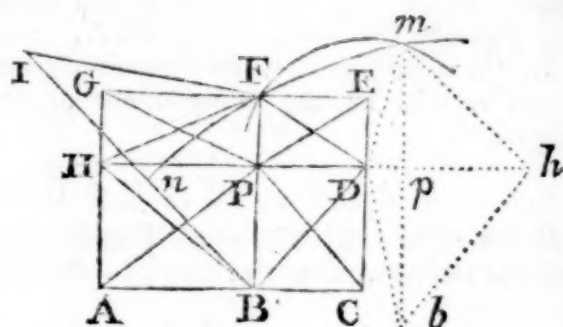
Suppose ACEG to be the rectangle; P the point, and PA, PC, PE, PG, the given lines; draw $HD \parallel AC$, and $FB \parallel GA$; join HB, BD, DF, FH . Then, because the diagonals of parallelograms are equal, HB, BD, DE, FH will be respectively equal to the given lines; and, consequently, the trapezium $HBDF$ is $=$ half the rectangle $ACEG$: the problem is, therefore, To make a trapezium of a given magnitude, with the sides given so, that the diagonals may intersect each other at right angles.

Perpendicular to one of the sides BD draw BI , and make the $\angle BFI = \angle HBD$; then, because the $\angle PBD$ is the comp. of each of the angles PDB, PBI to a right one, they must, therefore, be equal; and, by construction, the $\angle BFI = \angle HBD$, consequently the $\angle FIB = \angle BHD$; and so the triangles FIB, HBD are similar: hence $BD : DH :: BF : BI$, and $BI \times BD = DH \times BF$; that is, $BI \times BD$ is equal to the area of the rectangle GC : but BD is given; consequently BI is given. And, because HB, BD are given, the ratio of IF, FB is given, and hence we have this

CONSTRUCTION.

Make the rectangle $BI \times BD =$ the given rectangle, and divide BI , in n , in the given ratio of HB to BD . Then, by the lemma at pag. 336, *Simpson's Algebra*, describe the arc nm so that lines drawn from B and I , to meet in that arc, may be in that ratio. From D , as a center, with the radius $DF (= PE)$ describe an arc Fm , cutting the former arc in F and m ; join DF, Dm, FB ; and draw mb parallel, and HDh perpendicular to FB ; take also $Db = DB$; then, if BH, FH, bh, mb be made equal to the other sides of the trapezium, DH, FB , and Db, mb , will be the sides of two rectangles answering the conditions of the problem. For it is well known that if the diagonals of a trapezium intersect at right angles, the sum of the squares of the opposite sides are equal, and the contrary; therefore, howsoever the angles are varied, if the sides are connected in the same order, the diagonals will intersect at right angles; whence the construction is manifest.

If the arcs nm, Fm touch, instead of intersect, the problem evidently admits of but one answer; and, in that case, the area of the rectangle will be a maximum, and



and a circle will circumscribe the trapezium; which circle, and consequently the rectangle, may be determined thus: *Make either of the two opposite sides of the trapezium the legs of a right-angled Δ , then a circle described about that Δ will be the circle required.*

The foregoing problem is the same as Quest. 386, *Ladies Diary*, 1754: and it may be remarked of the algebraic solutions, given the following year, that the final equations admit of two roots. It is said that Mr. O'Cavannah (Mr. Simpson) had given a construction, which was omitted on account of its length; perhaps he did not reduce it to that of constructing a trapezium of a given magnitude under 4 given sides, as he might have referred to prob. 36 of his *Select Exercises*, published in 1752, where the construction is general for any trapezium.

This question was also elegantly constructed by Mr. George Sanderfon.

40. QUESTION (V. Jan.) answered by Mr. GEORGE SANDERSON.

The answer to this question will be greatly facilitated by premising the following

L E M M A.

Of all the triangles CDb , CAb , Cab , standing on the same base Cb , and having equal vertical angles, CDb , CAb , Cab , the isosceles one, CDb , has the greatest perimeter: and that, the vertex A of which, is nearer to D , has a greater perimeter than one which has its vertex a more remote from the point D . This is demonstrated at p. 111, of *Simp. Geom.* 1st edit. and in several other books.

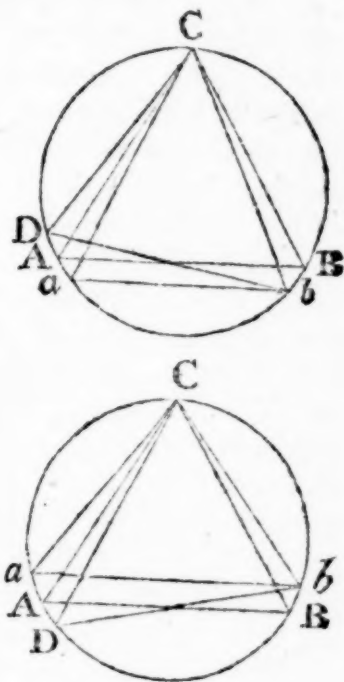
CONSTRUCTION of the PROBLEM.

In the given circle $ABCD$ inscribe the equilateral triangle ABC , and the thing is done.

D E M O N S T R A T I O N.

Draw ab parallel to AB either below it, as in Fig. 1. or above it, as in Fig. 2: join Ca , Cb , and Ab ; bisect the arc Cb in D , and draw CD and Db . Then, because the arch CB is bisected in A , and Cb in D , it follows that DA is less than Da , whence, by the lemma, the triangle CAB has a greater perimeter than the triangle Cab , and a less perimeter than the triangle CAB (because CB is equal to AB by construction) much more then is the perimeter of the triangle CAB greater than the perimeter of the triangle Cab .

Q. E. D.



MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

56. QUESTION I. by TASSO, of Bristol.

Given $1410x^2 + 1 = z^2$, to find x and z in whole numbers.

57. QUESTION II. by J. L.

It is required to determine a point in one of the sides of a given plane triangle, so that if lines be drawn from thence to make given angles with the other two sides of the triangle, the sum of their squares may be equal to a given square.


58. QUESTION III. by NUMERICUS.

Two numbers (47 and 71) which are prime to each other, being given; it is required to find the least multiple of each of them, exceeding a multiple of the other by a given number (19).

59. QUES-

59. QUESTION IV. by ANALYTICUS.

The fluent of $\overline{a+cz^n}^m \times z^{pn-1} \dot{z}$ being given, from p. 94, of *Simpson's Fluxions*, it is required to find the fluent of $\overline{a+cz^n}^{m-r} \times z^{pn+vn-1} \dot{z}$?

 The answers to these questions are requested before the 1st of August, and may be directed (post-paid) to Mr. Baldwin, in Paternoster-row, London.

THE MISCELLANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

ON THE STYLE OF CONVERSATION.

Age vero, ne semper forum, subsellia, rostra, curiamque meditare, quid esse potest in otio aut jucundius, aut magis proprium humanitatis, quam sermo facetus, ac nulla in re rudis? Hoc enim uno præstamus vel maxime feris, quod colloquimur inter nos, & quod exprimere dicendo sensa possumus.

CICERO.

SIR,

THE paper in your last miscellany has given birth to the following reflections, so do not disdain them. While you are learnedly commenting on the style of writing, give me leave, Sir, to throw in a word or two on a matter of more immediate consequence to the comfort and happiness of life; the style of conversation. I do not mean the rounding of sentences, or saying pretty things prettily, or fine things finely, or backing your horses, like Mrs. Flourigig, in the midst of a speech, for the sake of turning the corner of a period; but the downright communication of our thoughts to each other, the life and soul of all social intercourse, the first purpose of meeting and company, and the great distinction between our species and the rest of the animal creation.

"Speak, that I may know thee," said the wise man of old; but according to the prescribed use of speech in polite company, it is impossible for us to come at the least knowledge of each other; not on account of our using speech for the purpose of dissimulation, but because it is ungentle, forsooth, to discover in company that you have any knowledge at all; or for any one person to speak above five seconds at a time, or above five words in a breath.

Tediousness and prosing in conversation is an abominable practice, I allow; but no man ever dealt half so disagreeably in that figure of rhetoric,

which, I think, Swift calls the *Circumbendibus*, as the fops and flirts of the present age now deal in the abrupt, snip-snap manner of abandoning a subject before three syllables have been said upon it; flying from one question to another, as if each had been started for the sake of quitting it immediately, or as if the very ghost of good sense was to be laid in all good company. Conversation was intended as a kind of traffic of mental commodities, but nobody now dare open their budget: and lest nature should set some tongues a-going, the puppies of the world have, from time to time, contrived to put a kind of gag in our mouths, by inventing certain terms calculated to turn every man to ridicule who will venture to deliver his sentiments, or disclose his mind, for the information or entertainment of the company. If you attempt to tell a story, one puppy puts his hand to his cheek, and cries *Hem!* implying, it seems, that the tale is false, or that it smells of *Joe Miller*; and if you continue your narration a minute and a half, another puppy turns to a monkey next him, and whispers "what a bore! or *boar!*" for I do not know how they spell their nonsense; but (take it which way you will) it is intended to convey an idea of tediousness, and to compare the speaker to a hog or a gimlet: but sure, Sir, such wretches are themselves the greatest enemies to good company;

company; mere dampers to the mind, wet blankets to the imagination, and extinguishers of good sense and good humour. Taciturnity is the great vice of Englishmen, and it would be more expedient to devise methods to prevail on them to throw off that reserve which freezes their conversation, than to study these poor meagre inventions to shut up every man's light, like a dark lanthorn, within his own bosom. A bold free spirit, it is true, will leap these fences; but it is hard, methinks, that a plain modest man should be stopped in the high road of conversation, and not suffered to go on without interruption.

I love humour and pleasantry, Sir, as well as the merriest man in the kingdom; but, give me leave to inform these fine gentlemen, that it is a melancholy symptom, when they cannot bear the serious pursuit of any subject for two minutes together. Humour itself, if good for any thing, is serious at the bottom; but what provokes me, is, that these cuckows are as grave as stoics, and hold it a kind of treason to laugh; for the old folly is revived, which almost began to grow obsolete in our ancient comedies, of being gentleman-like and melancholy. Conversation being a kind of short extempore composition, all severe censure of what falls from us, prophaneness and indecency excepted, is ridiculous: not only sense, but, for the sake of sense, even nonsense, should be tolerated; for a man who is always afraid of uttering what may be interpreted to be nonsense, will not give his understanding fair play; and he will often let the immediate occasion, that would have given grace and force to his observations, pass by. He will seem, like an awkward militia-man, discharging his solitary blunderbuss long after the rest of the corps; or at best, supposing his words to have real weight and sterling value, they will come upon us untowardly, like distant thunder, which does not reach our ears till long after the flash has taught us to expect it.

By attending and observing modern conversation, one would be tempted

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to imagine that it was one of the first principles of politeness to drive all sentiment and science out of society. Every thing relative to a man's peculiar concerns, in which he might suppose his friends and acquaintance to take some little interest, is deemed impertinent; and every thing relative to knowledge is deemed pedantic. Formerly the honest bottle forced some rational and spirited conversation, even from the most riotous company; but the milkops of our age keep themselves sober, till the cards or dice relieve them from the cruel necessity of endeavouring to amuse each other by conversation. In the mean time, to put a curb on the fancy, lest the little genius they have should grow restive, and run away with them, they devise these miserable mechanical pieces of ridicule, as restraints on the freedom of society. I am rather an old fellow, perhaps somewhat peevish, and I confess it often puts me quite out of patience: when a man cries *Hem!* at one of my stories, I am almost provoked to give him a slap on the face; and when a puppy seems to measure my words with a stop watch, and at the end of a few seconds cries, *Bore!* I am almost ready to call him out, and run him through the body for his rudeness and impertinence.

We have lost the noble art of antiquity of writing elegant compositions in the form of dialogue. No wonder: for what dialogue can appear natural, when supposed to proceed from the mouths of men who will discourse on no subject, who preclude all pleasantries as vulgar, and supercede all knowledge as pedantic. As to sentiment, it might find as much quarter in a modern comedy from a modern critic, as from our puny establishers of the laws of conversation. The heart and the head are equally unconcerned, and to seem to know any thing, or to feel any thing, are alike breaches of politeness. But surely, Sir, all this is directly opposite to the warmth and plainness of our old national character: we were wont, like Shakspeare's Claudio, to speak home and to the purpose. If a man's mind is full of ideas, why not let

let them run over, and water the barren understandings, or refresh the fruitful wits of the company? Besides that, a man himself scarce knows what stuff he has in his thoughts, till he has drawn them out into discourse, and often forms his own opinion according to the impression that his words seem to make on his hearers. Answers too are produced, frequently given with more shrewdness on the spot than on further consideration; and truth, as well as wit, is struck out by collision. I don't mean to turn every society into a tinder-box, and to set argument and repartee, like flint and steel, perpetually striking against each other; yet, if a spark is now and then lighted up, why should the officious hand of dullness be authorized, by supposed politeness, to extinguish it? Conversation is mentioned by Lord Bacon (as wise a man, Sir, as the wisest of our macaronies) among the chief benefits of friendship, "making day-light in the understanding, out of darkness and confusion of thoughts;" and as the paper on style was adorned with an extract from a learned modern, give me leave to wind up the bottom of my loose thoughts on *Conversation* with a passage transcribed from that great chancellor and philosopher.

"Whoever hath his mind fraught with many thoughts, his wits and understanding do clarify and break up in the communicating and discoursing with another; he tosseth his thoughts more easily, he marshalleth them more orderly, he seeth how they look when they are turned into words: finally, he waxeth wiser than himself, and that more by an hour's discourse, than by a day's meditation. It was well said by Themistocles to the King of Persia,

That speech was like cloth of arras, opened and put abroad, whereby the imagery doth appear in figure, whereas in thoughts they lie but as in packs. Neither is this fruit of friendship, of opening the understanding, restrained only to such friends as are able to give a man counsel; (they indeed are best) but even without that a man learneth of himself, and bringeth his own thoughts to light, and whetteth his wits as against a stone, which itself cuts not. In a word, a man were better relate himself to a statue or picture, than to suffer his thoughts to pass in smother."

"Conference, says Lord Coke also, is the life of study." "Conference, says Lord Bacon again, makes a ready man, and if he confer little, he had need have a present wit."—In short, Sir, conversation is the great source of pleasure and information in society, and whoever contributes to dam it up should be strenuously opposed by the rest of mankind. But to suffer a bye word, a low cant term, to deprive us of the means of entertainment and intelligence is the meanest pusillanimity, and sacrificing good sense at the shrine of folly and nonsense.

I must beg leave, therefore, by an *index expurgatorius*, to expunge *Hem*, without a person really wants to clear his throat, and *Bore*, from the modern vocabulary; not merely on account of the barbarity of the terms, but for the evil tendency of the ridiculous something, or less than nothing, implied by them; for they are not only framed by blockheads destitute of meaning in themselves, but calculated to kill the seeds of good sense and humanity in other people.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

R. L.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE. ON ABSENCE.

Ut si quis cum causam sit acturus, in itinere, aut in ambulatione secum ipse meditetur, aut si quid aliud attentius cogitet, non reprehendatur: at hoc idem, si in convivio faciat, inhumanus videatur inscientia temporis. Tull. Officiorum, Lib. 1.

THERE are certain cares which intrude upon the mind on all occasions and in all places; nor can we prevent them. The strong influence which they exercise over us will not suffer our attention to be long bestowed on things

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things which have no relation to themselves. Have we aught to do which remains undone, or have ills of any kind befallen those whom we sincerely regard: our own condition, or that of our friends, will be a subject from which our thoughts cannot, for a long time be wholly abstracted.

We are not to be surprised, therefore, nor ought we to be offended, if by those who are under these or similar circumstances a becoming observance of time, place, and person should, without intention, be often neglected.

In these cases the *inscientia temporis* may admit of excuse: but the wilful disregard of that particular decorum which the present occasion may demand surely deserves severe reprehension; and especially as the practice of it daily becomes more and more frequent.

This inattention to the place in which, and to the persons with whom we are, and to the occasion on which we are met, is called, whether it be with or without cause, whether with or without intention, absence; the chief discrimination in company, as it is now a-days thought, between men of superior intellectual strength, and those who possess only common understanding.

No doubt they who have the most knowledge have the greatest employment for their thoughts, and certainly do think the most: moreover, in those who have been accustomed, during the whole of their lives, to spend much of their time in the pensive occupation of solitary study, and have delighted more in books than in men, the habit of thought may be so powerful, that they may scarcely ever be long and thoroughly free from it; and, therefore, cannot but have in company frequent though unconscious relapses into the absent state.

And, because in this manner some men of learning and genius have been observed to behave, a conclusion has been made, that the behaviour of every

one of superior parts must be the same; and, therefore, that by this we should at all times be enabled to distinguish in company those who have knowledge from those who have none. The error, however, of this conclusion will shortly appear; for now there is hardly a man who wishes to be considered in any wise learned that does not affect to be frequently absent.

If men confessedly great have ever, and it is to be suspected that they sometimes have, been guilty of the affectation of absence, such their conduct could only proceed from a notion, which must excite contempt for those by whom it is held, that common conversation has nothing in it worthy their notice, and, therefore, that it would not become them to be attentive to it.

Certainly in this they are sadly deceived; and such a mistake cannot but prove, that the greatest weakness will sometimes be shown by those who are esteemed the wisest of men*.

That philosophy, however, which is of a more genuine kind, which has a consideration for others as well as for self, thinks and acts in a different manner; at all times adapts itself to the society in which it may be; and to the merest trifles, provided the pleasure of others can be promoted thereby, readily gives the most patient attention.

When men in genius or in knowledge greater than others are inattentive to the company at which they are present, they surely forget the end of their visit: they forget that we retire to the closet for meditation and study; but that we come into society for relaxation and amusement: to be absent, therefore, on these occasions is, as it were, to fall into slumbers when we should keep awake: it is committing a rudeness which sinks us at once to the barbarian level: it is giving an offence which cannot but sometimes be of hurt to those from whom it proceeds, and which all but the desipient or insane would wish to avoid. P.

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FOR

* " — Il conversoit gaiement avec eux (les gens de la campagne) il leur cherçoit de l'esprit, comme Socrate; il paroïssoit se plaire autant dans leur entretien, que dans les sociétés les plus brillantes" — says d'Alembert, in his "Eloge de Montesquieu," who had too much sense to suppose that no attention is to be paid to the less enlightened part of mankind by those whom nature has endowed with stronger intellects.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
DESCRIPTION OF A TURKISH BATH.

THE Turkish manner of bathing is infinitely superior to any thing of the kind that is now known, or at least practised, in any part of Europe, for even most of the inhabitants of Italy, once so famous for the magnificence of their baths, have long neglected this luxurious but salutary custom.

The following description of a Turkish Bath may be applied to the bagnio of the common sort in every city in the Levant:

The first room is the undressing chamber, which is lofty and spacious, about twenty-five feet long and eighteen wide; near the wall is a kind of bench raised about two feet from the floor, and about seven or eight feet wide, so that after bathing a person may lie down upon it at full length; the windows are near the top of the room, as well that the wind may not blow upon the bathers when undressed, as for decency's sake. After undressing a servant gives you a napkin to wrap round you, and also a pair of slippers, and thus equipped you are conducted through a narrow passage to the steam room or bath, which is a large round building of about twenty-five feet diameter, paved with marble, and in the center of it is a circular bench where you are seated until you find yourself in a profuse perspiration; then your guide or attendant immediately begins rubbing you with his hand covered with a piece of coarse stuff called *Kessay*, and thereby peels off from the skin a kind of scurf, which cannot be moved by washing only. When he has rubbed you a few minutes he conducts you to a small room, where there is a hot bath about four feet deep and ten feet square, in

which he will offer to wash you, having his hand covered with a smoother stuff than before; or you may have some perfumed soap given you to wash yourself: after you have remained here as long as is agreeable you are conducted to another little side room, where you find two cocks of water, the one hot, the other cold; which you may throw over you with a basin, the water being tempered to any degree of warmth, or perfectly cold, if you prefer it. This being the last ablution, you are then covered with a napkin, and from hence again conducted to the undressing room, and placed upon the before-mentioned bench, with a carpet under you, and being extended upon it at full length, your attendant again offers to rub you dry with napkins. Some people have their nails cut, and also are shampoed;* the Turks generally smoak after bathing and the operation of shampooing, and in about an hour, a few minutes more or less, they commonly dress and go home.

It is to be wished that some able physician would take the trouble of informing us what would be the probable effects of the use of the Turkish baths in England. If we were to judge by a comparison between the endemical disorders of Asia and Europe, we should suppose that the moderate use of the bath might render the gout and rheumatism as uncommon in this part of the world, as they are in the other.

Very few Asiatics are afflicted with these complaints, although they eat their meat very highly seasoned with spices, and stewed in clarified butter; seldom take any exercise, and even many of them secretly indulge in other excesses,

* SHAMPOING is variously performed in different countries. The most usual manner is simply pressing the hands and fingers upon the body and limbs, particularly near the extremities, so as to compress, but not to pinch them. This is the general manner practised by the servants of the Asiatics, but the barbers and the guides at the baths make also the joints, and even the vertebrae of the back, crack by a sudden jerk, which to people unaccustomed to it in their youth is rather a painful sensation. The Chinese and Malay barbers particularly excel in this art, which, however, is very well known, and generally practised all over Asia, being by them thought a necessary substitute for exercise during the hot weather.

excesses, which with us are supposed to cause the gout. Why then may we not allow some degree of efficacy in warm baths and shampoing in throw-

ing off those humours, which not being removed, occasion the gout and other chronical disorders among the Europeans.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

I Have frequently observed the motto of this paper at the bottom of advertisements in the newspapers, and the other day I fell into the following train of reflections, of how many different sorts of counterfeits ought we to beware? In the first place, there is counterfeit *money*, in gold, silver, and copper; the counterfeiting the current coin of the realm, though a crime never pardoned in this kingdom, is daily practised, to the loss of many honest tradesmen who are not sufficiently aware of counterfeits. Secondly, there are counterfeit *bank-notes*, which cannot be too scrupulously examined into, or too carefully guarded against, especially by those who deal chiefly in such paper cash, if it may be so called; again, there are counterfeit *tradesmen*, if I may so term them, which have been the ruin of thousands of honest and industrious mechanics: I mean such who are generally called *swindlers*; of these we cannot be too circumspect or cautious; but further, there are counterfeit *gentlemen*, who may not improperly be stiled genteel pickpockets, witness *Barrington*, &c. of these we ought ever to be upon our guard, more especially when we are

in a crowd, or places of public resort. But of all the different kinds of counterfeits with which we meet, there are none more dangerous to society as well as individuals, and none more to be dreaded, shunned, and reprobated, than the *counterfeit-christian*, or religious hypocrite, who may be fitly compared to a shadow without a substance, a painted fire without heat, or an *Ignis fatuus* in boggy grounds at night.

Hypocrites of every denomination are despicable characters, and whether in high or low life, in the moral, commercial, or religious world, are a disgrace to humanity, the bane of honest industry, and enemies to their own souls, as well as to mankind in general.—They serve, however, in the *religious* world one good purpose, as they prove the *reality* of religion. Had there never been a *real Christian* there never could have been an hypocrite. Had there never been a *true* Christ, and *true* prophets, there never would have been *false* ones. May we be ever enabled to distinguish between the fallacious copies and the divine originals! Then shall we most cautiously

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

THE RURAL CHRISTIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

TO minds unbiassed by prejudice no appeals will be made in vain. All parties will be heard with attention, and the voice of reason only can prevail. To such do I address myself; and I flatter myself that my story may not prove uninteresting; as my situation is rather singular, and has arisen chiefly from contempt of vulgar prejudice and popular opinion. Perhaps my sentiments have in some points been particular; but I have ever acted

agreeably to their dictates; and my heart has been constantly actuated by a desire of rendering services to mankind. Notwithstanding, from want of paying that attention to trifles, which is the characteristic of little minds; from a neglect of ceremony; from a proneness (which I am too apt to indulge) of speaking too freely on both men and things, I have unhappily acquired an indifferent character.

It was my fortune to be placed, at an early

early period of life, in a genteel employment in the mercantile life; here my diligence and regularity recommended me for a long time, but at length an unguarded expression undid what years had been performing, and although I endeavoured by *real service* to make atonement, yet being by nature unable to cringe and fawn, my efforts proved fruitless; therefore, to avoid the contemptuous frowns of arrogant superiors, which I could not patiently brook, I changed the scene of action, in other words, I quitted the service of my employers, and entered into another; here my ill fortune again pursued me, for being very quick in the dispatch of business, and my colleagues remarkably slow and negligent, my warmth of temper frequently caused me to reproach them on that account, this I soon perceived operated very powerfully to my prejudice, and though at other times they behaved with a deal of apparent cordiality, yet I was convinced that they hated me in their hearts, for words, as experience shews me, frequently make wounds that time itself can scarce heal.

During this period I contracted an acquaintance with a young married couple, which seemed to promise the utmost satisfaction, as I thought the husband possessed an excellent understanding, and his wife was a woman of abilities superior to most of her sex. However, they were indigent, and to relieve them from a temporary distress I lent them a small sum of money. By this and other circumstances, a great intimacy took place between us; my visits grew, therefore, pretty frequent, till at last I was almost considered as one of the family. But, mark the event! One of my acquaintance—such a person as the world calls a GOOD YOUNG MAN, found his way to the husband; and with a malicious grin told him, that my visits were directed to his wife, and not him. Rage, jealousy, and every baneful passion took possession of his breast. Every thing I had said or done, was construed to my disadvantage. The money I had accommodated him with was con-

sidered as the price of seduction. He treated me with all the ingratitude of the basest of mankind; and pursued his vengeance to the utmost limits he was able without endangering his own safety. His innocent wife was likewise the victim of his brutality, for from that time he treated her with unparalleled cruelty. Thus, where I had flattered myself with the pleasing idea of restoring an embarrassed pair to comfort, I innocently became the destroyer of domestic peace, and afforded matter for conversation to wretches whom I held in the utmost contempt, who triumphed with a malignant pleasure at my ill success. These are not the only occurrences in which I have been unfortunate enough to displease; my sentiments on religious matters are reprobated, and I have been branded with the opprobrious name of Atheist, because I have sometimes asserted that mankind had suffered themselves to be too much priest-led: I have been rallied for enjoying the favours of women I have scarce seen; and by many I am looked upon as a debauched, unprincipled libertine, though on examining my own heart I can safely declare, that I possess not one quality that merits this censure. I shall not take up your time, Sir, in dwelling on any more particulars; suffice it, therefore, to say, that though for my own part, when I reflect that the applause of the many is in reality so little valuable, and that it is at any rate difficult to be obtained, without making such sacrifices as no man who acts from a conscious rectitude of principle can submit to, I hold them in contempt; yet there may be many whose situations are similar to mine, who entertain a different opinion. And as burdens grow lighter when they are shared, to persons of this description the narrative of a fellow sufferer may, perhaps, prove useful; and if you should deem it worthy of a place in your miscellany, every expectation with which it was written will be gratified. I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,
A. MAC BELLARSH.

FOR

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
OBSERVATIONS ON THE SECOND CHORUS IN THE MEDEA
OF EURIPIDES.

IF we consider the structure of the second chorus in the Medea of Euripides as a detached poem, it seems at first sight liable to objections. It seems to trespass against unity of design. The poet treats of two subjects, namely, the woeful effects of immoderate desires, and the sorrows of exile. The first strophe and antistrophe are employed in the first part, the second strophe and antistrophe are employed in the second.

But view the poem in another light, and this seeming imperfection will disappear, in so far, that what seemed faulty in the ode will really merit applause. It is not to be considered as a detached and separate poem, but as a part of a tragedy, and in relation to the place in that tragedy with which it is connected. In the preceding scene we have a very interesting conversation between Jason and Medea. There we have a full view of the inconstancy, the ingratitude, the injustice, the perfidy, and inhumanity of Jason, all arising from unrestrained and illicit desire. We have also a striking display of the direliction, the forlorn sorrows, and distress of Medea. Now, the chorus, affected by the events incident in the representation, are to express such sentiments as they suggest. They must introduce nothing foreign or unconnected with the subject, else they transgress against the laws of their institution.

*Neu quid medios intercinat actus
Quod non proposito conducat et hæbeat apte.*

They must also deliver themselves with dignity, and take part with virtue.

*Ille bonis faveat.—
Et amet peccare timentes.
——Ille salubrem
Justitiam, legesque, laudat.*

The chorus, of consequence, in the ode we are now considering, very strongly impressed with displeasure against Jason, and with a just sense of the guilt and infamy which such conduct as his,

and proceeding from such passions must necessarily entail, commence with the following lines :

Ερωτες υπερ μεν αγαν
Ελθοντες, υκ ευδοξίαν,
Ουδ' αρεταν παρεδωκαν
Ανδρασι.

This maxim is delivered in a very solemn manner. The chorus do not display the vehemence of strong resentment and indignation. Whatever they may have felt, they only express with reserve a sentiment of disapprobation. From the consciousness of inherent greatness of mind, and the importance of their function, and the respectable situation they held, it was not becoming in them to utter such violence and severity of invective as might suit persons of equal virtue, but not of equal dignity. They say negatively, but gravely, and with stately reserve, such conduct is not meritorious nor worthy of praise, *υκ ευδοξίαν*. The loftiness and solemnity of manner is also held forth in the forcible brevity of the expression. It has not one needless epithet. Every word conveys an idea necessary to complete the sense, except the *μεν*, which is necessary in another view, not as completing the sense of the passage, but as marking its connection with what follows. Strong and forcible, because briefly expressed, it is at the same time easy and perspicuous. If any thing might be objected, it is, that the *αρεταν* ought to go before the *ευδοξίαν*; the progress ought to be from merit to praise, or from demerit to censure, the one being the consequence of the other. But though the chorus spoke with dignified reserve in the opening of their song, and in expressing blame, their emotion increases as they proceed, and they think it less necessary to appear reserved in expressing admiration. Hence, contrasting moderate with immoderate desires, they contrast the manner also of delivering their observation: they

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do not say negatively, that well regulated desires are not unamiable; but express themselves positively, and present an amiable and graceful picture. In the spirit of increasing emotion they do not in plain, unornamented language give a mere moral maxim; but employ a beautiful image:

—Εἰ δ' αἰεὶ εἰλοῖ Κυπρίης,
Οὐκ ἀλλὰ θεὸς εὐχαρὶς ὕψω.

The progress of their increasing emotion is finely marked by its effects both on their sensibility and fancy; on their sensibility, by the ardent wish they express with an earnestness very different from the stately and sententious coolness of the first negative sentence; and on their fancy, by not only preserving but by displaying, by the addition of actions and attributes, the image of the Divine personage mentioned in the lines before:

Μη ποτ', ὡ δαεποῖν', ἐπ' ἔμοι
Χρυσέων τεύων εὐφροσύνης,
Ἰαερώ χιτῶν' ἀφύκτον οἶόνον.

In the following antistrophe we have the same subject continued, namely, the fatal effects of licentious and intemperate passions. We have also presented to us the emotions of the chorus expressed in earnest addresses.

Στεργῶι δ' ἐμὲ σφύροσιν,
Δωρημα καλλίστον θ' ὦν.

The ideal person whom the poet addresses first has her character marked, and her figure almost presented to us in the verb which the poet uses to express the actions he requires of her, *Στεργῶι*. How admirable is his use of this word, which not only brings a clear meaning to the understanding, but an interesting picture to the imagination! What an excellent example of forcible but perspicuous brevity! Were any thing to be objected to this passage, it would be to the impropriety of calling a person summoned to discharge an important office, a gift *Δωρημα*. Ought not the notion of a person to have been better supported? or is it not hurt by this neuter noun?

In the next strophe and antistrophe the poet changes his object, but it is in perfect consistency with his subject.

The chorus were not only affected in the preceding dialogue with Jason's perfidy proceeding from ungoverned desires, but with the sufferings of Medea. Betrayed, treated with ingratitude, insulted, and exposed to the sorrows of exile, she is justly an object of their compassion. They express their commiseration with symptoms of excited sensibility. They express themselves in wishes and pathetic addresses, with repetitions and interjections. The passage where they utter their abhorrence of a false friend is uncommonly striking:

Αχαΐϊος οἰοῖς, ὅτῳ παρεῖ·
Μη φίλος τιμῶι, καθάραν ἀνοῖξαν·
Τα κληῖδα φρενὸν· ε·
Μοι μὲν φίλος ὅς ποί' ἐσθλῶν.

The expression of the wish announces the highest indignation. The same is denoted by prefixing the epithet to the verb. The two circumstances that mark the faithless friend, as they are briefly, they are strongly expressed; and the second with a force of metaphorical language not unlike the language of Shakspeare:

Μη φίλος τιμῶν.

That is, who will not shew respect for his friend, in the time when expressions of respect and esteem are most necessary; at the time when his mind, cast down with sorrow, thinks humbly and with despondency of itself:

Μη—καθάραν ἀνοῖξ· νῖα κληῖδα
Φρενὸν· &c.

That is, withdrawing confidence; and presenting to the poor, dejected complaints of an afflicted mind, reserve and coldness.

Buchanan, in his translation of this tragedy, seems to have taken considerable pains with this chorus in particular. His verses are easy, flowing, and perspicuous. They are expressed with lyric emotion, and he has succeeded remarkably in the closeness of his translation. Some times, however, he has been obliged to substitute an image for the simple diction of Euripides. Εἰς τὴν εἰσοδόν, for example, is translated by "*amores vulnerant*." If in any part he has deviated from the sense of the original, it is in translating

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flating *ἡσπὸς ἡριεὸς*, by the words "*amoris unclam neclare*." It is not love, but strong desire, that seems to be meant by the poet. In translating the passage *Ὁξυφρων κριναι λεχη γυναικων*, by the phrase

"*Pavata prompte expendere*

"*Leclti jugalis crimina*,"

though he has not quite departed from the meaning of the poet, yet he does not express the delicate sentiment of Euripides.—"Eager to judge the beds of women," no doubt implies the idea of punishing crimes; but it is only implied; the poet expresses himself in delicate and proper terms.

Those, however, who know how difficult it is to translate fine verses from one language into another, without losing their beauty, will be more disposed to give Buchanan praise for what he has done, than censure for what he has left undone. They will give him particular praise for the closeness and the simplicity of his version of the last strophe and antistrophe; but must feel at the same time that it is impossible fully to enjoy fine poetry, but in the language in which it was originally composed.

A. O.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

MR. EDITOR,

THE following little narrative is extracted from a small pamphlet, lately printed by the ingenious Mr. Wedgwood, on the subject of emigration, addressed to the workmen of his pottery. This little book, I believe, is not intended for publication, I have, therefore, transcribed this story for your Magazine. The whole, indeed, is written in a style so easy and so simple, and appears to be the production of so warm and friendly an heart, that it is to be lamented that it is withheld from public view.

I am, Sir, your constant reader,

Clarges-street, April 30, 1784.

E.

STORY OF THE UNFORTUNATE MR. BARTLEM.

RELATED BY MR. WEDGWOOD.

ABOUT seventeen years ago, Mr. Bartlem, a master potter, who had been unsuccessful in England, went to South Carolina, and by offers made from that place, very advantageous in appearance, prevailed upon some of our workmen to leave their country, and come to him. They took shipping at Bristol, and after more than a quarter of a year spent in storms and tempests upon the sea, with many narrow escapes from shipwreck, they at last arrived safe, and began a work near Charles-Town. This adventure being encouraged by the government of that province, the men, puffed up with expectations of becoming gentlemen soon, wrote to their friends here what a fine way they were in, and this encouraged others to follow them. But change of climate and manner of living, accompanied perhaps with a certain disorder of mind

to be mentioned hereafter (which have always made great havock among the people who have left this country to settle in remote parts) carried them off so fast, that recruits could not be raised from England sufficient to supply the places of the dead men. In Mr. Godwin's own words to me, whose son was one of them, *they fell sick as they came, and all died quickly*, his son amongst the rest.

In this narrative, the fate of Mr. Lymer's family (Mr. Bartlem's brother-in-law) with that of young Mr. Allen, of Great-Fenton (whose sister Mr. Bartlem married) son of the Rev. Mr. Allen, and heir to a pretty estate, should not be forgot.

Lymer, at the solicitation of his brother-in-law, not only went over himself, but took with him his wife and two children, and all his effects. They met with very stormy weather,

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and were at last shipwrecked near an island, of which I cannot learn the name. The ship was entirely lost, with all the effects of these passengers, but they themselves happily, and very wonderfully, got on shore, though most of the sailors were drowned.

After the first flood of joy was over for their deliverance from immediate death, they soon found themselves in a most comfortless situation. Thrown by the waves upon an unknown island (unknown to them at least, both the place and the people) and destitute of every necessary but the clothes that covered them. In addition to their distress, Mrs. Lymer, who was near down-lying when she left England, brought them forth another little sufferer, for whom they had not the least provision, but were left entirely dependant for all things upon the humanity of utter strangers: who, nevertheless, being a kind-hearted people, supplied them with clothes for their helpless infant, and meat and drink for themselves; otherwise, they had escaped death at sea, only to meet him in a more terrible form by land.

Young Allen, one of this unfortunate company, too impatient to wait for Mrs. Lymer's being in a condition to put to sea again, shipped himself in a vessel, which he found there, bound for Carolina. The rest followed as soon as they were able, but all the enquiries they could make after young Allen were in vain; neither he nor the ship have been ever heard of from that day to this, so that he was certainly cast away; and they were themselves, alas! reserved only for a more lingering death. Mr. Lymer, his wife, and the two children they took with them, all fell sick, and followed the rest of their countrymen into an untimely grave. The poor orphan, that was born in the island where they were shipwrecked, met with a good old lady then going to England, who, touched with its forlorn condition, and the fate of its parents, took the poor girl with her, and delivered up her charge to the

friends of the deceased, with whom I believe she is now living.

Mr. Bartlem, thus deprived of his whole colony, returned once more to England, in order to raise some fresh supplies. In a little while, by dint of great promises, he prevailed upon four to go with him; but the event of this expedition was only more labour and more lives lost. For though the people there were disposed to encourage this infant manufactory, and the assembly of that state gave him at different times five hundred pounds, to keep him on his legs as long as they could; yet all would not do; the work was abandoned, and only one man returned to England*; the rest, with Mr. Bartlem himself, are either known to be dead, or have not been heard of since.

Whilst these fruitless attempts were making in Carolina, another equally fruitless, and equally fatal to our people (for *they* were chiefly employed in it) was carried on in Pennsylvania. Here a sort of China ware was aimed at, and eight men went over at first; whether any more, or how many, might follow, I have not learned. The event was nearly the same in this as in the others; the proprietors, soon finding that they had no chance of succeeding, not only gave up the undertaking, but silenced the just complaints of the poor injured workmen, by clapping one of them (Thomas Gale) into a prison: the rest, who had never received half the wages agreed for, were left entirely to shift for themselves. Thus abandoned, at the distance of some thousands of miles from home, and without a penny in their pockets, they were reduced to the hard necessity of begging in the public streets for a morsel of bread. Some died immediately, of sickness occasioned by this great change in their prospects and manner of living, being dashed at once from the highest expectations to the lowest and most abject misery. Mr. Byerley, a nephew of mine, who was then upon the spot, published in the newspapers a letter in

* This person is William Ellis, of Hanley; who informs me that the wages promised were good enough, a guinea a-week with their board, but that they never received half of it.

in behalf of the poor survivors, stating the original agreement upon which they had been brought over, the injustice and cruelty of their employers, and the miserable circumstances to which the men were reduced. This had no effect in softening the hearts of their masters towards them, but a subscription was set on foot by the inhabitants

for their relief, by which those who had weathered the first storm were supplied with daily bread; but, like plants removed into a soil unnatural to them, they dwindled away and died, and not one was left alive, to return and give us any further particulars of this affecting tale.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

ANECDOTE OF A YOUNG FRENCH LAWYER.

A Farmer-general, who had acquired immense riches, as most of them usually do, had a son, whom he was very desirous to bring up for the same business.

The young man, who had, during his residence at college, formed different connexions with other young men of opulent families, as soon as he was introduced into the world, launched into a variety of expence and extravagance, quite inconsistent with the plodding and circumspectful profession for which his father intended him.

Finding him incorrigible, and yet wishing to reclaim him, the father was advised to purchase for him the place of a counsellor in parliament, as the French stile it; that is to say, a seat on the bench in one of their courts of judicature.

In this he did no more than many opulent fathers do every day for their children in France, where the purchase of such places is as usual as of any post or employment whatever.

His son, though wild and dissipated, neither wanted sense nor learning; it was not indeed of that sort which would have qualified him for the post he held; but it was liberal, and precisely of that nature which enables young men to shine in gay and fashionable companies.

Among other qualities, he had a peculiar turn for the laughable and ludicrous; and never missed an opportunity of exercising it whenever it offered.

This of course made him very acceptable to those of the same cast; who form a large party among the young gentlemen in France.

As he added to this a humane and compassionate disposition, he was quickly noted by those who relied more upon that, than upon the goodness of the causes that brought them before the tribunal of which he was a member.

Being handsome as well as tender-hearted, and extremely devoted to the fair-sex, no young gentleman of the long robe had more frequent visits from the ladies, in the way of his profession.

His partiality to any cause that had a fair pleader to enforce it was conspicuous to all his brethren; and he was emphatically stiled the patron and advocate of beauty.

Among the many female solicitors that attended his levees, there came one on whom the hands of the graces had lavished all they could bestow, in such profusion, that she struck him at once with that admiration and wonder which so completely captivate and enslave the hearts of amorous young men.

I need not say that her requests were so many commands, which it was impossible for him to disobey, and her looks so many darts, which pierced him to the very soul.

He espoused her cause with so much warmth, that in a short time she came triumphantly out of her suit, which was a very important one, no less than a considerable annuity settled upon her by a man of high rank.

She had, it seems, been his mistress: but his parents, desirous of marrying him to a rich heiress, had prevailed upon him to forsake her; which he did very reluctantly, after making a handsome provision for her.

But his parents, who did not approve of this alienation, instituted a law-suit, in order to recover it; and would have succeeded, but for the zeal and activity of our young magistrate.

So important a service merited undoubtedly some returns: he became in his turn a solicitor, and was not refused.

But as, previous to the winning of her suit, her circumstances were very narrow, and as the fees of lawyers and attornies were a continual drain upon her purse, she was fain to replenish it by the only means that were left, the sale of her charms to a secret admirer; who supplied her with what was necessary to defray the charges of the law.

This friend was a very debauched man: his riches enabled him to revel among the women that were venal; and his taste led him to seek them indiscriminately every where.

As people of this disposition are liable to an infinity of dangers, he did not escape them; he contracted a violent distemper, and communicated it to his fair companion.

She was ignorant of her situation, when the loving instrument of her success had been favoured with her embraces: he consequently became a sharer in her misfortune.

On the discovery of what had befallen him, instead of expressing any anger or ill-will to the damsel, he conceived the design of turning the

matter to a jest, and of making it a subject of public pleasantry.

In order to compass this end the more effectually, he merrily proposed to her to assist him in the scheme he had in view, as without her co-operation it could not possibly take effect.

This scheme was to bring into the same situation with himself two or three more young gentlemen of the law of his own degree, who had equally befriended her, by strengthening his decision in her favour with the addition of their own.

As they had done this through his intercession, and chiefly to oblige him, he jocosely argued that they had an equal right to the same recompence with himself.

But what was his astonishment, when the damsel told him, that though gratitude would have prevented her from coinciding with a proposal which she doubted not he made in mere jest, yet he needed not bemoan himself for want of companions in adversity: that the friends whom he wished to participate in the donation she had made him had already received it as unintentionally and innocently on her part as he had himself.

Our young judge was wonderfully elated with this news: he sent his compliments to his fellow sufferers, assuring them that he felt a particular satisfaction to hear that the rewards due by the lady for their exertions in her favour had been distributed so impartially.

P O E T R Y.

Translation of the second Chorus of the Medea of Euripides.

Ερωτας ὕμνος, &c.

LICENTIOUS appetites were never known
To strengthen virtue and confer renown.
But Venus, cloth'd by Wisdom, shines supreme
Of all that heavenly, or that fair we deem.
O Venus, pierce not with thy powerful dart,
Dipp'd in immoderate desire, my heart!
But thou, the chief of heavenly gifts, with care
Mate'st me from the guileful snare;
Save me, O Wisdom, from th' impetuous fires,
The rage and frenzy of impure desires!
Save me from jealousies and rancorous strife,
Doubts that perplex, and cares that harra's life.

Mild Cyprian Queen, yet zealous to pursue
Those who dishonour thee, with vengeance due;
May gentle peace, on my domestic scene
Shed the soft influence of her ray serene.—
My country, O my country, and my home,
Never from you an exile let me roam!
Never, a stranger in a foreign land,
Bend under Want's unmerciful command!
Me let cold death in his embraces fold
Ere I the horrors of that day behold!
For of the woes that mortals deem severe
Exile from me would wring the bitterest tear.
We speak not from mere rumour, for we see
Those woes too well exemplified in thee:
Great are thy wrongs and marvellous thy grief;
Yet none regards thee, or affords relief;

No friend commiserates thy woe, no state
Protects or succours thy disastrous fate.
Perish the man who sees a friend's distress,
And will not render his affliction less!
Nor in the hour when most he feels neglect
Raise his desponding grief with kind respect:
Nor e'en unlock the sympathizing heart;
Nor consolation's balmy dews impart.
Unhonour'd, unlamented be his end,
O may I ne'er experience such a friend.

A. O.

ON THE ARTS.

By an English Gentleman resident at Rome.

WHEN Arts first rose in Egypt's happy land
No rival power could e'er her force with-
stand;

The Arts and empires equal periods know,
Cease those to rise, then these must cease to grow.
But where they ebb, behold the nation fall,
To virtue lost, and deaf to honour's call.
From Memphis, Greece the infant arts convey'd,
And there a novel lustre they display'd.
To sculptur'd marble Egypt's sons could give
The outward form—the Grecians bade them live.
The marble tempts, such softness is express'd,
Our curious hands to press the swelling breast;
The chilly touch bids admiration rise,
Scarcely knowing which to trust, our hands or eyes,
So Chloe's bosom, cold as Alpine snow,
In Damon's breast bids unfeign'd ardour glow.
Nor fam'd for arts alone—in arms renown'd,
Greece dealt her fetters to the world around,
E'en art-inventing Egypt felt the chain,
In arts surpass, her armies fought in vain,
And still did Greece the imperial sceptre hold,
'Till Science was subdued by lust of gold.
At last behold her venal statues come
To deck the palaces of youthful Rome.
Italian wealth the glowing sculpture buys—
Sure sign of Greece's fall, and Latium's rise.

X.

SONNET,

*Written at Piercefield, in Monmouthshire,**By Dr. WARWICK.*

PIERCEFIELD! the choice of Gods, if
earthly crime
Had yet forborn to tempt celestial ire,
Whose bowers have nurs'd the themes of an-
cient rhyme,
Whose caves resounded to the Druid lyre;
Bold as thy forests, as thy rocks sublime,
Could verse reflect the raptures they inspire,
Her voice superior to the rage of time
Might call on endless ages to admire.
But short the reign of art—for see below
Her darkling veil the pallid ivy throw
Around the grassgrown abbey's* roofless wall;
And yon tall cliff, whose summit lifted high,
The banner'd castle's† warlike symmetry,
Mock from his edge the fragments as they fall.

INVOCATION TO CLOE.

By the late DUKE OF DORSET.

LET other bards invoke the tuneful nine,
Or call Apollo to their great design;
Whilst I, contented with my happier fate,
A smile from you, to crown my labours, wait.

Smile then propitious on my feeble lays,
And make them equal to my Cloe's praise,
In that just mean instruct my verse to flow,
Not harshly rough, nor languishingly slow,
But graceful easy numbers let me bring,
Graceful and easy as the nymph I sing.

Then, when with envy future bards enquire
What powerful charms such numbers could inspire,
With pride and pleasure shall I own, that you
Who made the lover made the poet too.

CUPID and SOPHIA.

*Addressed to Mrs. W.**Ut vidi ut perii—*

IN am'rous mood, the God of Love, 'tis said,
Drew back the curtains of Sophia's bed;
The lovely maid, unconscious, slept serene,
Nor dreamt the rosy boy so near had been:
"What charms (he cries) what wond'rous charms
are here!

Venus, my mother, is not half so fair!"—
Then gently stole to her soft snowy breast,
Where soon he made himself a welcome guest;
Each young desire her bosom's taught to know,
And with Love's am'rous fires to burn and glow?
Sportive they play'd till bright Aurora came,
And caught his Godship with the lovely dame;
Cupid, alarm'd, quick through the casement fled,
His quiver'd arrows leaving in the bed;
The prize Sophia saw, and straight secur'd,
For pow'r to conquer all her soul allur'd!
Arm'd thus with charms and Love's resistless darts,
Hopeless the effort to secure our hearts!

J. W. W.

ELEGY.

Οηλω, θηλω Φιλησαι. ANACREON.

AH me, depriv'd of every calm delight,
I offer up my fervent pray'rs
To every deity, to every sprite,
That views with pity mortal cares.
Say, ye, who know, why endless griefs annoy,
And doom to woe, my youthful breast;
Where every happy thought once teem'd with joy,
And pleasure was a constant guest?
O say, ye fairy elves, ye spirits, say,
Who dwell in sacred grots, unseen,
Or guided by the moon's more tranquil ray,
Frisk blythesome o'er the margin green:
Who near some chrystal stream, or flowery shade,
In frolic, weave the mystic dance;
Retir'd, where never mortal sounds pervade,
Nor mortal footsteps dare advance;
Say, o'er my bosom, what superior power
Exerts his arbitrary reign,
And, at his will, devotes my every hour,
To pleasure now, and now to pain?
Too well my mind declares it is the dart
Of Cupid, a capricious boy,
That wounds with poignancy my heart,
And cancels every former joy.
Yet I'm content—for see, how brightly glows
My ever lovely Celia's face;
And hear what solid sense her lips disclose,
Adorn'd with every mental grace.

For

* Tintern-Abbey, of which an account is given in our Magazine for July, 1783. † Chepstow-Castle.

For ah! conjoin'd to those exterior charms,
Which, soon as seen, the heart ensnare,
Her bosom every purer virtue warms;
For she's as generous as she's fair.

Then let me, raptur'd, own the nymph divine,
And with sincerity admire:
Oh! let me dedicate to her the line,
Which love and beauty join'd inspire.

Long since, by Beauty's powerful decree,
I gloried in the filken chain;
Still let me love, nor wish my bosom free,
Nor ever of my fate complain.

Still let my passion every grief beguile:
Still let me hope she may approve;
And, blissful thought! perchance may favouring
smile,
And with compassion bless my love.

With all perfections grac'd, would Celia deign
To smile upon my humble pray'r,
That smile should terminate my lovelorn pain,
That smile repel my every care!

That smile a balmy requiem should impart,
Which might the power of Fate defy;
Should animate my truly grateful heart
With love and joy, which never die!

The sculptur'd image yields to Time's rude hand:
In vain the tower its height uprears:
For not Art's noblest monuments withstand
The rage of self-succeeding years.

These perish—but that heavenly smile impress,
While life and memory remain,
By gratitude and honour fix'd, my breast
In fond remembrance shall retain.

S.

E P I G R A M.

By AUSONIUS.

PERA, polenta, tribon, baculus, scyphus, arcta
supellex,
Ista fuit Cynici: Sed putat hanc nimiam.
Namque cavis manibus cernens potare bubulcum,
Cur, scypho, te, dixit, gesto supervacuum?

T R A N S L A T I O N.

By the late Dr. ROBERTSON, of Wolver-
hampton.

A Bag, meal, threadbare cloak, staff, wooden dish,
Were all the goods Diogenes could wish:
But these he found too much, when on the brink
He saw Tim's hollow hand scoop up his drink.

E P I T A P H on HENRY THRALE, Esq.

By Dr. S. JOHNSON.

HIC conditur quod reliquum est
HENRICI THRALE,
Qui res seu civiles, seu domesticas, ita egit,
Ut vitam illi longiorem multi optarent,
Ita sacras,
Ut quam brevem esset habiturus præfere videretur
Simplex, apertus, sibi que semper similis,
Nihil ostentavit aut arte fictum, aut cura
elaboratum.

* We shall be obliged to any of our learned readers for a translation.

† We are not certain who was the author of these verses. They have been attributed to Whitehead
and to Horace Walpole.

In senatu, Regi, patriæque
Fideliter studuit.

Vulgi obstrepentis contemptor animosus,
Domi inter mille mercaturæ negotia
Literarum elegantiam minime neglexit.
Amicis quocunque modo laborantibus,
Conciliis, auctoritate, muneribus, adfuit.
Inter familiares, comites, convivas, hospites,
Tam facili fuit morum suavitatem
Ut omnium animos ad se alliceret,
Tam felici sermonis libertate,
Ut nulli adulatus, omnibus placeret.

Natus 1722. Obiit 1781.

Confortes tumuli habet Rodolphum patrem stre-
nuum fortemque virum et Henricum filium uni-
cum quem spei parentum mors inopina decennem
proripuit.

Ita

Domus felix et opulenta quam erexit
Avus, auxitque pater, cum nepote decedit.
Abi, Viator,
Et vicibus rerum humanarum perspectis
Æternitatem cogita! *

IN TEMPLO VENERI DICATO.

QUISQUES es, O Juvenis, nostro vagus ad-
vena luo,

Cui cor est tenerum, cuique puella comes:
Quisques es, ah! fugias! hic suadent omnia
amorem,

Inque casa hic latitans omnia suadet Amor.
Aspice, flore capri quam circum astringitur ilex,
Amplexu hærenti, et luxuriante coma.
Sylva tegit, tacitum sternit tibi lana cubile;
Aut tumet in vivos mollior herba toros.
Siquis adest, subitum dant tintinnabula signum,
Et strepit, in primo limine, porta loquax.
Nec rigidum ostendit, nostro de pariete, vultum
Actæusve senex, dimidiusve Cato:
At nada aspirat dulces Cytherea turores,
Atque suos ritus consecrat ipsa Venus.†

INSCRIPTION on a Tablet in the Temple
of Venus, in Lord Jersey's wood at Middleton
Stoney.

Translated from the Latin.

WHOE'ER thou art, whom chance ordains
to rove,
A youthful stranger to this fatal grove;
Oh! if thy breast can feel too soft a flame,
And with thee wanders some unguarded dame,
Fly, fly the place—each object thro' the shade
Persuades to love, and in this cottage laid
What cannot, may not, will not Love persuade?
See to yon oak how close the woodbine cleaves,
And twines around its luxury of leaves.
Above, the boughs a pleasing darkness shed,
Beneath, a downy couch soft fleeces spread,
Or softer herbage forms a living bed.
Do spies approach? shrill bells the sound repeat,
And from the entrance screams the conscious gate.
Nor from these walls do rigid busts frown,
Or philosophic censors threat in stone:
But Venus self does her own rights approve,
In naked state, and thro' the raptur'd grove
Breathes the sweet madness of excessive love.

METEORS

M E T E O R S.

IN the first volume* of the London Magazine in its present form, a very full and accurate account was given of the various METEORS which had been observed by astronomers and others, during the last summer, and also an historical relation of the circumstances which have been recorded concerning these FIRE-BALLS during the last and present centuries. We were likewise favoured with a copy of Dr. Maskelyne's plan for observing these phenomena†.

As we have already entered so largely into these subjects, our readers may justly expect to find in this work every paper of importance which appears, relative to these meteors. On this account we present them with a copy of the following letter to the astronomer royal. It was publicly addressed to him in consequence of the plan and directions mentioned above, which were disseminated into every part of the island.

TO THE HONOURABLE NEVIL MASKELYNE, D. D. F. R. S.
AND ASTRONOMER ROYAL.

S I R,

HAVING met with an address from you to the community at large, to transmit what animadversions they might have made of the several meteors lately seen, I beg leave to favour you with the following, which I have gathered from an account given by the parties concerned.

1. The meteor, or fire-ball, which appeared on August the 18th, was seen by some fishermen off Barking, in Essex, who imagined it arose from out of a marsh by the sea side, as it passed directly over their vessel about three minutes after they first discovered it, bearing then N. N. W. from them, and traversed towards the S. S. E. At first it was very small, but increased in size the higher it ascended. When it was in a parallel with their vessel, they heard a noise like unto the fizzing of moist gunpowder when fired.

2. It was about twenty minutes past nine when they first discovered it; being within shore, they imagined it arose from out of the marsh.

3. Its figure at first was globular and small, not so large as a trap-ball, conveying a faint light, but, approaching higher, appeared considerably larger and brighter, about one foot in diameter; when directly over their vessel they heard the combustion, but the size of it then is not to be ascertained, the illumination being so great that they seemed enveloped in a blaze.

4. Shortly after passing by, it separated into many small globes, carrying a tail of a yard long. These fiery globes did not seem to separate from the main body, but others kindled by the fire-ball in its passage.

5. The tail disappeared first; at the time of its bursting the body seemed to be repulsed from it, and in about a minute after the body also burst, being at this time no larger than a cricket-ball. The manner of its bursting greatly resembled that of a fire-work, known by the name of a Roman candle abroad, which, after reaching the highest extent, bursts and separates into two or three drops, leaving a faint light behind. In the same manner the fire-ball, after gaining the greatest apparent altitude, burst, leaving a track in the elements. About twenty minutes after its disappearance an explosion was heard from the same quarter, like unto the rumbling noise of a clap of thunder, increasing and decreasing in the sound. It is to be observed that the ball burst ten minutes after it had passed them.

Observations on the Meteors or Fire-balls.

The more condensed the circumambient air or atmosphere, the more pure is that of the upper region, which being specifically lighter than the former causes a precipitation. Suppose the atmosphere to be in a state of condensation,

* Page 449 and p. 487.

† Page 498.

sity, it is a heterogeneous fluid, strongly impregnated with the sulphureous exhalations, &c. from the earth, rarefied by the solar heat or subterraneous fires, which, when higher sublimed, come in contact with dissimilar bodies. A commixture of this kind, viz. inflammable, being formed, when agitated by the winds a collision of its particles excites an intestine heat; it next expands and separates with explosion. From hence I determine the fire-ball to be a vaporous exhalation, or *ignis-fatuus* sublimed, forming a congeries with other vapours of an attractive quality, previously sublimed, and the many smaller globes a separation of the congeries, caused by the wind. From the time they first discovered it till its disappearance was about thirteen minutes.

The report heard after its bursting 20 minutes, as sound moves (according to you) only 13 miles in a minute, it must have been from them at the time of its bursting S. S. E. 260 miles, and when they first saw it 73 miles N. N. W. It is no wonder they imagined it so nigh, as its rapid course was no less than 26 miles in a minute. The computed distance between the two points mentioned being 10,800 geographical miles; the velocity of the meteor was so quick, that in six hours, 55 minutes, and 23 seconds, it would have passed from pole to pole.

The reason why the report was heard from the same quarter where it burst, seemed blended with others; the noise increasing and decreasing was the different reports conveyed from the many separable parts which disappeared alternately, each passing off with an explosion. I make no doubt but if the exact time when it was seen at different places, and the velocity of the meteor and the sound could be communicated to you in the manner I have here done, your superior genius would soon discover the longitude of places.

In confutation of the received opinion, that sound moves at the rate of thirteen miles in a minute, we will suppose an inflammable substance, whose component parts are of a different texture from another though of the same magnitude, will admit of a greater explosion; the tremulations caused in the air must be sharper and brisker in the one than the other. Allowing this, any given account cannot exceed conjecture, as we must suppose it to be an inflammable matter, whose component parts are not of such an equality as to admit of the same explosion, or for the sound to move at the rate of 13 miles in a minute, from the higher regions, against wind, &c.

G. SALLINGER, *Surgeon.*

Gravesend, Jan. 17.

INTELLIGENCE.

A New *arret* is issued by the King of France, concerning the opera of Paris, which is an additional proof of the liberality of the Grand Monarch, and of the wisdom of his ministers.—This *arret* provides a comfortable retreat for the actors and actresses of that theatre. It excites emulation among authors by the prizes which are to be adjudged to the best lyric productions, and it encourages the zeal of the principal agents in this rational amusement. We have too frequently seen that talents the most respectable, and exerted with the most laudable ambition, have been treated with so much

cool indifference by the public, as, instead of accumulating the wealth to which they were intitled, have doomed their possessors to linger out their lives, without resource, to a decrepid and unhappy old age. This *arret* assures the performers of a certain provision after fifteen years of uninterrupted service, and if they continue twenty years on the stage, they are to be intitled to a further pension, independent of what their talents may have produced. Gold medals are to be conferred on the lyric poets, and ample encouragement is assured to every successful effort of literary talent. This liberal

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liberal procedure will ensure the opera of Paris an inexhaustible source of subjects, and a marked superiority over all the other theatres of Europe.

The persons who are appointed to be the judges for the distribution of the prizes, in the opera, to the author of the best lyric performances give the utmost satisfaction and confidence to the literati. Their number, their intelligence, their high character, and their elevated rank as members of the *Academie Française*, give the candidates for the royal honours full security that their efforts will be fairly estimated. The following is their advertisement announcing their acceptance of the office, and their arrangement:

“ M. M. Thomas, Gaillard, Arnaud, de Lille, Suard, Champfort, and Le Mierre, of the *Academie Française*, having been invited by the minister, in the name of the King, to take upon themselves the examination of the lyric poems which may be submitted in competition for the prizes established by the King, according to the article in the *arrêt* of the 3d of January last, they have accepted of this distinguished mark of the royal confidence, and they will best demonstrate their sense of the high honour, by the zeal, attention, and impartiality with which they shall execute the trust reposed in them.

“ The authors of the works submitted to the competition, must be set to music, and be the ordinary length of a theatrical piece. They are to send their poems before the 1st of December next to M. Suard, one of the examiners, who has accepted of the office of secretary. The pieces for every following year are in like manner to be sent before the 1st of December.

“ The authors are to be careful that they do not by any means, directly or indirectly, discover themselves; they must only put some motto or device at the head of their several productions, and inclose a sealed paper containing the motto, along with their address.

“ The examiners will meet in the month of December, at a convenient place, and will proceed to the judge-

ment of the pieces; and they will give their opinion, not only on the pieces which they shall consider worthy of the prizes, and which they shall adjudge to receive them; but also on those which with corrections appear susceptible of exhibition on the theatre with applause.

“ When the examiners have concluded their examination, and pronounced their judgement, they will transmit the decision to the secretary of state for the department of Paris, who will publish, in the daily journals, the names of the successful pieces, and the prizes will be delivered by the minister to their authors. The examiners will return to the authors their works, along with the observations which they have made, and by which, in their opinion, those who are not intitled to the prizes may be improved and rendered fit for the theatre.

“ The examiners, desirous of seconding the views of the Sovereign in giving to the *Academie Royale de Musique* the desired perfection for the entertainment of the public and the progress of the arts, have procured free admission to a box set apart for them in the opera, and mean to be present as often as possible at the representation of the new pieces, according to the invitation they have received, that they may contribute by their suggestions and advice to the success of the performances.”

THE useful establishments that are every day fixing in France are the greatest disgrace to this kingdom, where we have none by which young men may become acquainted with arts and sciences not taught at the universities. The present King of France last year established a *School of Mining*. The royal edict appoints two professors with ample salaries, one charged with teaching publicly chemistry, and mineralogy. The other teaches physics, subterranean geometry, hydraulics, the art of piercing, and the whole that pertains to the renovation of air. The course of study is three years, each lecture is of three hours, and each professor gives three a week. No scholars

are admitted that are under sixteen, or that have not been well instructed in geometry, design, and the elements of the German language. Each scholar must submit to two public examinations, one in the theory of mines, and the other in the practice, in presence of the *Intendant General des Mines*. The *eleves* that appear best instructed are then sent by the intendant to undertakings that are carrying on with most activity throughout the kingdom, and maintained a certain time at the royal expence; and the King promises that the various places in his gift belonging to the mine department shall in future be distributed amongst those who by their industry and acquisitions in this establishment shall possess the most merit: and some of them are to be sent abroad, to study the improvements that are made in other countries.

Such establishments in various arts and sciences, which are constantly taking place all over Europe, shew what exertions are every where making to push all sorts of natural advantages to the utmost; whereas in England, nothing is active but the operations of party. The time will soon arrive, when the consequences of such different conducts will clearly appear.

Abstract of a Plan for an Order of Military Merit.

A B S T R A C T.

An order of Military Merit, to be established to distinguish such as shall signalize themselves by any remarkable action of valour, or by their courage and good conduct.

The Sovereign to be Grand Master, and, as well as the heir apparent or presumptive to the crown, to wear the insignia, together with those of the order of the Garter.

The order to be divided into three classes, viz.

The first to be called "Commanders of the Order."

2d. "Knights of the Order."

3d. "Companions of the Order."

Admission not to be obtained by birth, favour, nor even by long and irreproachable duty; but those entitled

to the order must have been *distinguished* in the service.

The commanders must have served with distinction at least five campaigns, or have *taken* or *defended* some fortrefs, being chief in command; or have invented and contributed to introduce some useful military project or improvement.

The Knights and Companions must have served three campaigns, the former with a command equal to a battalion in action; but in every case the performance of some distinguished service to make all other restrictions unnecessary.

The above rules to be perpetually and invariably fixed.

The commanders to wear, from the right shoulder to the left side, an orange-coloured ribband, three inches and a half broad, edged with blue, having a gold cross or badge hanging thereto, embossed or enamelled, with a sword crowned with a glory, and ornamented with laurel, motto, *Bellicæ Virtuti*. The reverse, a cross of St. George enamelled red, with an helmet in the center, and the words Geo. III. instit. An.

The Knights to wear round the neck a ribband, striped orange and blue, with the same cross.

These two classes to wear likewise on the left arm a white band or ribband, edged with gold, having a cross or badge, and the motto *Quæsitum Meritis*.

The companions to wear the cross hung at the button-hole.

The commanders may likewise wear round the escutcheon of their arms the ribband of this order, with the words *Quæsitum Meritis*, having hung thereto the cross of the order.

The Knights may have the same motto, with the cross hung by a knot of the same colour under their arms. And the companions the cross, hung in the same manner.

All the three classes may wear, as an additional crest, an helmet, with the word *Tutamen*, or the name of the place where they may have distinguished themselves.

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cretary of the order a memorial of their pretensions and necessary proofs, which will be laid before the chapter, and the president to report the result to his Majesty, for his approbation.

British officers serving with our allies to be equally entitled to this order.

Nine officers, not under the rank of major-generals, to be chosen by his Majesty, as commanders in the first instance, in order to form a chapter for the election of the rest; such, therefore, of the general officers as may think themselves qualified may send memorials to his Majesty, or to the commander in chief.

First class to consist of commanders, besides the Sovereign and heir apparent or presumptive.

Second class of Knights.

Third class of Companions.

The chapter to consist at least of six commanders and the president. In cases of necessity, three of them may be companions; the majority to determine, and the president, in all cases of equality, to have the casting voice.

This order not to be worn with any other, unless by the Sovereign and heir apparent or presumptive of the crown. The insignia to be given to each Knight and Companion, and no expence whatever incurred on admission.

If the investiture be at St. James's, the Knights elect to be introduced by four Commanders or Knights, attended by the rest of the order present.

The knighthood to be conferred on them kneeling on one knee, the Sovereign with his own hands investing them with the insignia of the order.

In camp or garrison, the investiture to be performed as above by the commander in chief on the spot, with the addition of military honours.

If a commander, he is afterwards to ride along the line, the officers and colours saluting.

If a Knight, the same, with his own brigade; only the colours are not to salute.

And if a Companion, his own regiment; the officers saluting only with their hats or swords.

B I O G R A P H Y.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

IF the following memoir, which is a translation from the French, be thought worthy a place in your biographical department, it is much at your service.

I am, Sir, your constant reader,

Lincoln's-Inn, May 3, 1784.

S.

MEMOIRS OF WILLIAM JAMES 'SGRAVESANDE,
LATE PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY AT LEYDEN.

WILLIAM JAMES 'SGRAVESANDE was descended from an ancient and honourable family of Delft, in the province of Holland. He was born in the year 1688. Nothing was spared in his education, and he discovered a very early turn for mathematical studies; to which his talents were so happily adapted, that it is said he kept his tutor perpetually employed by the rapid progress he made.

In 1704, he was sent to the university of Leyden; where, though he

made the civil law professedly his study, that of his favourite science was not neglected. It was here that he composed his well-known treatise on perspective; which, though not published till many years after, was finished before he was nineteen years of age.

Notwithstanding all the marks of a juvenile production were conspicuous in this piece, it was greatly admired by some of the most eminent mathematicians of the time; particularly by the celebrated John Bernouilli, whose opinion of it, soon after published in

a letter to the author, conferred no little honour on so young a mathematician.

In 1707, our student took his degree, as doctor in the civil law, his thesis on that occasion, entitled *Autocheiria*, being a treatise on suicide, in which the most prevailing arguments against that unnatural crime are judiciously chosen and supported.

He removed soon after from the college, and settled at the Hague; where, together with his two brothers and fellow-students, he applied himself to practice at the bar. In this situation, he soon cultivated an acquaintance with men of science and letters; and in the year 1713 made one of the principal members of the society that composed a periodical review, entitled *Le Journal Litteraire*. His associates in this undertaking were Mr. Marchand, author of the dictionary before us, Messrs. Van Effen, Salengre, Alexandre, and St. Hyacinthe; at that time all young men, and no less distinguished for their knowledge and ingenuity, than for that friendship and esteem which mutually subsisted among them.

The publication of this Journal began in the month of May, 1713, and continued without interruption till 1722; Mr. 'SGravesande enriching it with many curious and valuable articles. Indeed, the manner in which this undertaking was carried on was such as bid the fairest to reach the utmost perfection a work of this nature is capable of, the articles furnished by every member being read, and examined, in a general meeting of the society, and nothing being inserted but what was universally approved. At the same time, however, it must be acknowledged, that nothing less than that moderation and regard which these gentlemen actually possessed toward each other was requisite to preserve an harmony absolutely necessary to the prosecution of a work carried on by men of such different sentiments on various occasions. An instance of this is given us, in what is related of Mr. 'SGravesande's account of Ditton's book on the Resurrection of our Sa-

viour. This article being read to the society, St. Hyacinthe, who was a rank Deist, objected to the critic's having taken the side of Christianity; whereas, in his opinion, as an impartial journalist, he ought to have appeared totally indifferent. This opinion, however, was over-ruled, and St. Hyacinthe prudently submitted.

The parts of this journal written or extracted by Mr. 'SGravesande were principally those relating to physics and geometry. There are also inserted several original pieces, entirely of his composition; particularly in the fourth volume, a paper, entitled *Remarks on the Construction of Pneumatical Machines*; and in the fifth, a moral essay on Lying; in which the ingenious author enquires into the obligation we are under to speak truth, and how far that obligation binds us on most occasions in life. This piece is written in form of a letter, and seeming to be produced by a genius of a very different turn to that of Mr. 'SGravesande, it was long before he was suspected to be the author.

There are also several other letters and pieces of less note, scattered up and down in the first ten volumes; and in the beginning of the twelfth was first printed his celebrated Essay on the Collision of Bodies; wherein he sides with the partizans of Leibnitz, in asserting the force of moving bodies to be as the quantity of matter multiplied into the square of the velocity; in opposition to the doctrine of Newton, who maintained it to be as the quantity multiplied simply into the velocity.

This essay, with a supplement soon after published in the same work, made much noise in the physical world. Hitherto Leibnitz, who was the first that publicly maintained this theory, had made no converts of note out of Germany, except the Bernouillis in Switzerland, and Poleni in Italy. In France and England, the old theory was still adhered to; and it was a matter of some surprise, that Mr. 'SGravesande, who had adopted every other part of the Newtonian philosophy, should dissent from it in this. His treatise was attacked accordingly on all sides; Dr.

Clarke

Clarke entering the lists among others, and, with a very indecent warmth, casting reflections on the author, very unbecoming himself or the occasion.

Mr. 'SGravefande did not fail, however, to make his party strong; and the dispute, after having engaged the attention of the most celebrated mathematicians and philosophers in Europe, ended not a little to his honour. For, though he had not the satisfaction of obtaining a complete victory over his antagonists, he appears to have had by much the best of the contest.

If a writer at this distant period may venture to give his opinion of this controversy, he must confess, he thinks the experiments made and repeated on

each side, in a great degree justified the conclusions drawn from them, while the reasoners on both went on the supposition of the existence of the *vis inertiae* in all bodies, or in all matter, without distinction. Every body that could come under their examination in the way of mechanical experiment was, doubtless, possessed of that power; but it did not thence follow, that all matter, or the primary impenetrable solids, of which such bodies were supposed to be compounded, would be so too: nor has it yet appeared from experiment, that the *vis inertiae* of compound bodies is in all circumstances the same, or always directly proportionable to their quantity of matter*. But to

return

* Sir Isaac Newton, indeed, lays it down as one of his *regulae philosophandi*, that "the qualities of natural bodies which cannot be increased or diminished, and agree to all bodies in which experiments can be made, are to be reckoned as the qualities of all bodies *whatsoever*. Thus, because extension, divisibility, hardness, impenetrability, mobility, the *vis inertiae*, and gravity, are found in all bodies which fall under our cognizance or inspection, we may justly conclude they belong to all bodies whatsoever, and are, therefore, to be esteemed the *original* and *universal* properties of all natural bodies."

This rule, however, is a mere *ipse dixit*. For sure they may be properties of whose increase or decrease we are ignorant, that are yet the effect of a combination of elements, or smaller bodies; and, therefore, are not the properties of those elements or bodies themselves. But, supposing the above rule to be just, we do not know that it has been ever demonstrated, that the *vis inertiae* of bodies, or of any certain quantity of matter, will not admit of increase and decrease. On the contrary, Sir Isaac Newton has himself demonstrated, that if a certain quantity of matter were particularly modified, and put in a certain manner in motion, its velocity would alternately diminish and increase, although solicited by no external force whatever. Now, the *vis inertiae* being that power with which bodies endeavour to persevere in their present state, either of motion or rest, it is plain that power must, in the case supposed by Sir Isaac Newton, admit of an alternate increase and decrease. For, while the same, or no, resistance should be made to the moving body, how could it go faster or slower at one time than at another, unless the power of preserving its present state of motion were altered?

The supposition of that great philosopher is this: if two bodies were made to revolve round one common centre, and that centre be carried forward in a right line, the whole will move faster, when the revolving bodies move toward the line of direction, than when they move from it. Undoubtedly they will: and two bodies, so united to one common centre, may well be considered as parts of one compound body, whose *vis inertiae* will thereby admit of increase and diminution. For, suppose the revolution of these bodies round their centre so quick as not to be sensible to experiment, would not they apparently compose a circular body, or hoop; which would move alternately faster and slower? and, at the same time, vary its form into an ellipse, whose longest axis would be sometimes in one direction, and sometimes in another?

Now, if the *vis inertiae* of compound bodies does not depend on the number and magnitude of their component parts, it must arise either from the disposition or motion of those parts. If merely from their disposition, those parts would resist being displaced, in proportion to the square of the velocity of the body endeavouring to pass through them: and this they would do too, notwithstanding any other resistance which might arise from their motion. Hence, the impressions made by falling bodies on clay, and other substances of little tenacity, would always follow some proportion, nearly as the quantity of matter in the falling body multiplied into the square of the velocity.

It appears, nevertheless, that the force, or *momentum*, of the falling body, supposing it a perfect solid, should be, as Sir Isaac Newton affirmed, viz. as the mass simply multiplied into the velocity. In the motion of compound bodies, however; as their *vis inertiae* depends either on the disposition or motion of their parts, or both, so its quantity of force must consist of the sum of the resistance of all the parts; and the *momentum* of such compound bodies, of that sum multiplied into the velocity of the whole; and not simply of the quantity, or number and magnitude of those parts so multiplied.

We shall here add further (as in some degree respecting the matter in question) that the argument of Sir Isaac Newton, founded on the supposition above-mentioned, does not, in our opinion, answer the purpose for which we have seen it often quoted, viz. to demonstrate that the quantity of motion in nature is not always the same, but may be absolutely increased and diminished.

In

return to Mr. 'SGravesande. In the year 1715, he was appointed secretary to the embassy on which Baron Wasse-naar and Mr. Van Borfelle were sent to England by the States-General, to felicitate King George the First on his accession to the throne.

On his arrival in London, he renewed his intimacy with several men of letters, whom he had known in Holland; and became acquainted with many others of the first repute. But the friendship he most assiduously cultivated, was with Sir Isaac Newton, for whom he had a particular veneration and esteem.

During his stay in England, he was admitted member of the Royal Society; and, while employed in his office of secretary, is said to have acquired an amazing facility of thinking and writing on the most profound subjects, and of making the most abstruse and difficult calculations, in the midst of a numerous and noisy assembly, without being in the least disturbed or affected.

The business of the embassy being over, Mr. 'SGravesande returned to Holland, and was chosen, about a year afterwards, professor of mathematics and astronomy at Leyden. At that time the Newtonian philosophy was in its infancy, and our professor had an opportunity of reaping great honour,

as one of the first who publicly taught it in the schools abroad.

In the year 1721, the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel invited him to his court, in order to consult him about certain mechanical engines he had thoughts of erecting. Here Mr. 'SGravesande saw the famous wheel of Orfyreus, but without being able to decide whether it was a perpetual motion or not.

This confession, which he made to Sir Isaac Newton and others, being made public, drew on him the clamours of almost all those mathematicians who had already conceived the impossibility of a perpetual motion to be demonstrable. Their demonstrations, however, had not convinced our professor, who treated them only as pretensions to a certainty, unattainable in mechanics.

Indeed, what Mr. 'SGravesande was an eye-witness of, as to that machine, was sufficient to surprise the most profound reasoner: and his testimony in favour of the inventor redounds much to the credit of the latter; at least, it effectually puts to silence the reproaches made him on account of the deposition of his servant, who swore that she herself, standing in another room, turned the machine; the impossibility of which is sufficiently attested by our judicious professor*.

The

In the falling of bodies, we know, motion is communicated by the power of gravity to such bodies, in the time of their descent: but we will venture to say, the cause of gravity will admit of mechanical explication; so that no motion is hereby absolutely generated. And, as to the supposed proof in question; though it be certain that, when the revolving bodies tend toward the direction of their common centre they will both move faster forward in that direction than before, yet it is certain too that those bodies will not, during the same time, move so fast round their center, as when they are in the other part of their revolution: so that the velocity which is gained in the whole is lost in the velocity of the parts, and the *momentum* of the whole is neither increased by the quicker motion, nor decreased by the slower.

* It is surprising that, during above sixty years no one should hit upon, and publish, the expedient by which the wheel of Orfyreus continued its motion. The ablest mechanics, in general, sit down contented with the supposition of its being an imposture: but, from the evidence of facts, attested by such as we have abundant reason to think could not be dupes to any artifice practised in that instance, it appears that the principle of its motion was some how contained in the wheel; although we do not pretend to conceive in what manner it possibly could be so.

It is true, the maid-servant of Orfyreus deposed, that she or her companion kept the machine constantly in motion: but the most accurate scrutiny into the construction of the external part of the machine proved this to be absolutely impossible; the axes having no manner of communication with any other room, or distant object.

That the secret was lost, and the inventor rendered contemptible, is, however, certain: but this was probably more owing to the extreme oddity of the man, than to any deceit in the machine itself. In the first place, it seems, he was whimsical and perverse to the last degree; and, in the next, highly conceited, and profoundly ignorant. He broke his machine to pieces, merely because Mr. 'SGravesande made that minute examination, which is the greatest testimony in its favour. And, when accused by his servant of having employed her to turn his wheel, and exacting from her a terrible oath to oblige her to secrecy, he refused to exculpate himself by making another of the same kind; but supported the obloquy under which he was fallen with obstinacy.

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The most considerable of all Mr. 'SGravefande's publications is his introduction to the Newtonian philosophy, or a treatise on the elements of physics, confirmed by experiments. This performance, being only a more perfect copy of his public lectures, was first printed in the year 1720; and hath since gone through many editions, with considerable improvements. He obliged the public also with a small treatise on the elements of algebra, calculated for the use of young students; and, on being promoted to the chair of philosophy, in 1734, published soon after a course of logic and metaphysics, which, for method and perspicuity, is perhaps inferior to none. This last work gave much offence to the advocates for man's free-agency, on account of what the author had advanced, in the eleventh chapter of his metaphysics, regarding human liberty: nor did it less affect the zeal of many ignorant divines; who, making no distinction between a moral and a mechanical necessity, unadvisedly accused him of favouring the doctrines of Hobbes and Spinoza. No one, however, could harbour sentiments more contrary to

fatalism than Mr. 'SGravefande, or be more ready, on all occasions, to avow principles diametrically opposite.

Besides the pieces of his own composition, published by this learned man, the public are obliged to him for several correct editions of the valuable works of others: and, had not death prevented his putting a most excellent design in execution, might have been much more so, for a system of morality which he intended to have published.

As a citizen, we find few men of letters that have done more service to their country than himself: having hardly quitted the college before his known abilities in calculation recommending him to the notice of the ministers of the republic, he was consulted on all those occasions wherein his talents were requisite to assist them in raising money for the use of the state. As a decypherer also, he was frequently serviceable in the detection of the secret correspondence of their enemies: while in his capacity of professor of the mechanic arts, perhaps no one was ever more successful in applying the powers of Nature to the purposes of economist improvement.

It is not impossible, however, but the deposition of his servant might have been brought about by persons who wanted to penetrate his secret; and that, knowing this, and despairing of obtaining his demand of 20,000*l.* as a recompence for the secret, he resolved to give them no further opportunity of stealing it, by exposing another machine to such curious enquirers.

EXHIBITION AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY, SOMERSET-PLACE.

IN our last number we proposed to lay before our readers a concise view of the Exhibition, with short strictures on the merits of the principal artists. To enter minutely into the excellencies or faults of every separate painting would occupy more room than we can allow; and if we were to attempt it, with respect to the many of these performances, we should at last be obliged to cry out with Shakspeare, "We searched a whole day ere we could find them, and when we had found their *beauties* they were not worth the search!"

Since the establishment of the *Royal Academy*, an institution derived from the auspices of his present *Majesty*, the

progress of *PAINTING*, and growth of *ARTISTS*, has been very considerable. The *utility* of bringing into assemblage the labours of numerous *professors* in their various degrees of merit is so evidently of general benefit that it needs no comment. The works of our first masters, by being brought forward, excite *emulation* among the *superior rivals*, and become *models* to the younger *disciples* of the *Pencil*. The *extremes* of colouring, which painters in their early practice are fond of adopting, by being contrasted, the *fierce* with the *sombre*, discover that *nature* lies in the *medium*, and the judicious student will avail himself of the advantages which are so presented.

It

It would be deciding unfairly, because the *Exhibition* is not every year still better than the preceding, to say that the arts do not improve. Accident will always operate so as to prevent a regularity in the progress of refinement. This latter remark is occasioned by the *display* of the present year being very inferior to what it has been for the four preceding seasons. There are few pictures in the *Exhibition* before us that can be classed under the head of *Historical*, the *sublime* of painting! no fine description of the *passions* is, therefore, attempted, nor no *composition* to evince the force of design. Mr. *West* has indeed given some *spiritual* subjects, and another artist or two ventured so far as to groupe a few figures with tolerable success. Mr. *Louthborough* has given a variety of charming views from nature: Mr. *Serres* has done himself honour in several excellent sea-pieces: these artists are seconded by many others; but *portraits* chiefly constitute the academical collection.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS

Has adorned the Academy with 16 *portraits*; a much greater number than he intended originally to exhibit; but the *hiatus* occasioned by Mr. *Gainsborough* withdrawing his pieces has rendered it a matter of necessity to bring forward as many good pictures as could be collected: Sir Joshua has not been very scrupulous on the score of *novelty*, as some of his performances are the work of past years.

No. 14. Striking representation of Mrs. *Abington*, in the character of the *English Slave*, in the *Sultan*; she is described in the act of drawing the curtain when she surprizes the *Sultan* in his retirement.

No. 16. *Portrait of a Gentleman*. If this is not a *likeness* of the gentleman for whom it is intended, we conceive it will not *apply* to any *other* person. The colouring is even and correct.

No. 30. *Portrait of Mr. Pott*. This is an excellent performance; the likeness is strong, and the drapery in Sir *Joshua's* usual stile of richness.

No. 31. *The Archbishop of Tuam*. This worthy *prelate* is portrayed in his

canonicals. The resemblance is very perfect.

No. 58. *Portraits of a lady and child*. There is great beauty in this performance.

No. 70. *His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales*. The *Prince* is described in his *regimentals*, leaning on a *military horse*, from which he has just alighted. We conceive it is intended to represent his *highness* at a review; but his countenance discovers not the least *animation* correspondent to such a scene. Nature is surely neglected in this portrait! the face appears *swelled*, and the *eyes* nearly *closed*. The *figure* is by no means graceful, and the *left leg* in particular is awkwardly situated. The *horse* is grey, and by means of the elevated ground on which he stands, appears in *alliance* with a *dapple sky*; even his very *mane* seems to have formed a *coalition* with some *offsimulating clouds* near it. The *promise* Sir *Joshua* made in his portrait of Col. *Tarleton*, is *bappily kept* by his performance in the *Prince*!

No. 108. *Portrait of Mr. Fox*. This picture exhibits a strong likeness. The master has seized the similitude of Mr. Fox in one of his familiar points of view—in that peculiarity of carriage, which to an acquaintance or an observer of the exalted original strikes on the instant as the true and perfect resemblance. The unassuming demeanour is expressed as distinctly as the bright intelligence.

No. 112. *Portrait of Lady Dashwood and child*. A very correct likeness of her ladyship.

No. 113. *Master Braddyl*. An admirable portrait; the drapery excellent, and the attitude pleasing. A landscape in the back ground has great merit.

No. 138. *Portrait of a gentleman*. The colouring of this picture is firm and even.

No. 139. *Portrait of Lord Lewisbam*. A striking likeness of the nobleman who is the subject. The air, the drapery, and penciling of this portrait displays the hand of a master.

No. 177. *Nymph and Cupid*. This performance has great merit. The nymph

nymph is roguish, and bent on mischief; one of her eyes is concealed by the position of her hand, but the power of the other by that means appears doubled.

No. 183. *Portrait of Miss Kemble.* A flattering likeness of the lady for whom it is meant; finished in Sir Joshua's best manner.

No. 190. *Mrs. Siddons in the character of the Tragic Muse.* The President in this portrait has discovered great genius; the likeness is strong, and the expression of the countenance seems to declare this favourite actress to be "*Patience on a monument smiling at Grief!*" She is represented seated on an antique throne, but surely her figure might have appeared much more dignified had she been erect. She is attended by two of the attributes of Tragedy; the one bearing a chalice of poison, and the other a poignard. There is a defect in these figures being of an equal height, the disposition also of the arms and drapery of the principal object produces a very unpleasing square. The tone of the colouring is beautiful.

No. 218. *Portrait of Dr. Wharton.* A very good likeness of its classic original; in which not the least air of college pedantry is seen.

No. 343. *A boy reading.* This portrait appears to the natural eye one of the nymphs in the train of *Comus*, and all the aid of Mr. Storer's optics will not transform her to a boy reading!—The painter, who wrote BRUIN under his bear, to prevent his being called a lion, well knew how necessary the aid of letters were to his science!

MR. DODD.

This very promising *Marine painter* merits the highest protection. He has finished two excellent scenes of naval events, which for the sake of order we shall transpose, and begin with that latest mentioned in the catalogue.

No. 235. *L'Amazone, after an hour and a quarter's engagement, striking to his Majesty's frigate Santa Monica, commanded by Captain Salter.* The hulls, masts, and rigging of the ships are delineated with architectural proportion, the hulls are bright and clear, equal to *Backhuysen*, the water possesses

great transparency; and the distant sky good keeping. The rigging and sails of both ships appear shot to pieces.

No. 8. *The Santa Margaritta, cutting her prize adrift, at day-break, on the appearance of thirteen sail of the enemy.* A performance which possesses all the merit of the foregoing sea piece.

MR. WEST.

This artist has been particularly favoured by royal patronage, and the subjects assigned to his pencil have generally not only the aid of sacred writ to give them popularity, but also the lessons of the very patriarchs (to use the expression) of painting for their perfection. His performances of the present year are as follow:

No. 81. *The Apotheosis of Prince Alfred and Prince Octavius.* This picture was finished for a chamber belonging to her Majesty: the idea of the conducting Angel introducing in Paradise the departed princes to each other is extremely poetical. This picture claims pre-eminence over all Mr. West's other performances of this season. The composition is good, the figures in perfect drawing, the pencilling finished, and the colouring in excellent harmony. The countenance of the Angel is sweetly expressive of the happy act over which it presides, and the mutual pleasure described in the princes is equally to Mr. West's honour. But why is one of the Cherubs represented with a cropped head, like a little work-house boy?

No. 121. *The call of the Prophet Isaiah.* This picture, with the two following, are intended for his Majesty's chapel at Windsor.—A very characteristic picture, strongly expressive of that prophet's grandeur and sublimity of mind.

No. 126. *Moses receiving the law on Mount Sinai.* The composition of this picture appears to have been considered with great judgment: the groupe which fills the lower part of the piece consists of the elders, who accompanied Moses to the top of the mount, where he and Joshua ascended to the upper summit, where the law was delivered to him. The figure of Moses is extremely striking, sublime,

and original, and does infinite credit to the invention of Mr. West. He has, with great judgment and propriety, endeavoured to convey an idea of the *presence* of the Almighty, by the sublimity, the grandeur, and the awful solemnity of the scene, with the striking effects it produces on all who are present, leaving to every spectator to form in his own mind an idea of the God-head.

No. 135. *The prophet Jeremiah*. An admirable performance, and fit to be placed in union with his brother prophet.

No. 402. *Alexander of Scotland saved from the fury of a stag by Colin Fitzgerald*. Mr. West has told this story with great truth and spirit.

No. 435. *Moses striking the rock*. The drawing of this picture is in a slighter manner than is usual with Mr. West; the composition of it is very fine; and we should deserve the imputation of fastidiousness, if we animadverted on some slight faults in the execution, which is on the whole masterly and charming.

MR. LOUTHERBOURG.

The Royal Academy owes so much to the pencil of the above-named artist, that we cannot suppress pointing his performances out, as deserving the most minute attention. His landscapes are ten in number; they are local representations, in which he has been guided by some of the most romantic situations in this island.

No. 25. *Dove-Dale, in Derbyshire*. The execution of this view does Loutherboung's pencil the highest honour. The fragments in the water, the broken foreground, the cattle drinking, and the peasant resting on the acclivity, with the distant mountain, form a happy assemblage of objects, which delight from their rudeness and disorder.

No. 63. *A cottage in Patterdale*. The smoke rising from the cottage, the gloomy cold sky, and the blue distances, indicate the time to be a morning. A waggon appears near the cottage. The objects in this piece are finished with great precision.

No. 71. *Brathen Bridge*. The amazing spirit and boldness of the

painting is well adapted to this romantic scene. The landscape is composed with great harmony, and happily relieved by a fine sky and bright water. At the foot of the bridge a poor soldier appears quite exhausted with fatigue: his wife, who has one child in her arms and is leading another, is described thanking a traveller for the money he is holding out to a third child. This is a counterpart of Mr. Loutherboung's picture of last year, in which the relief of a poor soldier's family was differently represented. How powerful an incentive to morality is the pencil in the hand of such a master!

No. 78. *Skiddaw in Cumberland*. A sky tinged with the radiance of the setting sun appears to diffuse an animated glow on every object near it; the season, which is summer, is well represented in the dust occasioned by a stage-coach. The various objects in this landscape are in fine keeping.

No. 125. *Gowbarrow Park*. The landscape is composed of a variety of wild objects, broken ground, irregular water, and a sky highly corresponding to the other parts of the scene.

No. 128. *An inn with a waggon*. This is a morning scene; the colouring and perspective beautiful throughout; the objects finished with great neatness, and the whole an admirable copy of nature.

No. 133. *Matlock-high-torr*. We feel enthusiasm in viewing this scene. The broken foreground is extremely fine; the trees in exact representation of nature; and even the clouds are composed in groupes, to give every effect. The richness and variety in this piece give it a preference over Mr. Loutherboung's other pieces.

No. 169. *Lake Winandermoor*. This is a small picture. The brightness of the water, and objects which intersperse the scene, are pencilled with extreme neatness.

No. 212. *Lows-water*. This piece is a companion to the foregoing; and, in point of effect, very properly in contrast. The former wears a bright, and this a gloomy aspect.

No. 346. *Lakes in Westmorland*. This performance evidently discovers the

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the hand of the master; it has great merit, but falls very far short of many of his pieces.

MR. BURNEY.

No. 187. *Portrait of a child.* A very charming painting of a pretty little girl.

No. 328. *Caroline, from L'Ami des Enfants, a sketch.* The modesty of this artist has induced him to term this sweet little piece a *sketch*. In the choice of his subject he is very happy, and the mother and the children are admirably drawn.

The ladies have not distinguished themselves greatly this year. Mrs. Cofway's ideas are too high for her execution. Miss Moser has quitted flowers for subjects unsuited to her genius. And Miss Margaret King, who stands first in merit, and almost alone, as an artist in crayons, has given us

but one portrait, not finished with her usual care; and the picture hardly to be found in the ante-room.

The busts and monuments by the Hon. Mrs. Damer, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Carlini, and Mr. Nollekens, do not discredit those names. Mr. Bacon's monumental figure is among the choice productions of human genius.

Besides the Exhibition at the Royal Academy, Mr. Barry's series of paintings are again offered to public notice. The limits of our work will not allow us to give a description of this artist's elaborate performance. But we must add, that so great a work was scarcely ever executed by a single hand. The truth of this assertion will be readily allowed by those who have attended this exhibition, at the great room belonging to the Society of Arts and Commerce.

THE ENGLISH THEATRE, AND REGISTER OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

THE Theatres have not produced many novelties this month. Little, indeed, is expected, during the benefits. Some old plays have been revived, and at Covent Garden, on the tenth of May, a new comic opera of two acts, called *TOO LOVING BY HALF*, was brought forward, at the benefit of Mrs. Martyr. It is the first production of Mr. Horatio Robson, and gives the promise of dramatic talents which may be useful to the theatre.

Radish,

Mr. Quick.

Bowspit,
Greville,
Kitt,
Mrs. Radish,
Tabitha Loveall,
Arabella,
Florence,

Mr. Bannister.
Mr. Brett.
Mr. Wewitzer.
Mrs. Webb.
Mrs. Pitt.
Mrs. Bannister.
Mrs. Martyr.

The idea of the piece is to shew the miseries flowing from the over fondness of the wife. The songs were adapted to some very excellent tunes, and the whole was very well received.

OPERA-HOUSE.

May 5. A new opera was performed, intituled *ISSIMILE*. The subject is taken from the Grecian history. This drama was written by the celebrated Metastasio. The music, which was universally admired as a *chef d'œuvre* of harmony, is the composition of Signor Anfossi, who, in our opinion, never shewed his great talents to better advantage. The songs which seemed to unite most of the suffrages of the audience are the aria of Signora Lusini—*ben impalidisce in Campo*, her *cavatina*, *provero Cortu palpit*, both in the first act, and in the second act, *Ecconis non ferir*. In these she rose superior to any thing we had hitherto conceived of her musical powers. Signor Uttini was greatly applauded in his first song, as was the *Bravura* of Signor Bartolini. Pacchierotti, it is sufficient to say, sung in his best manner, he was much applauded in all his songs, but especially in his last *Io vi lasci*, in which he was unanimously, and deservedly encored. The dresses and the scenery were truly magnificent.

The ballet of *Le Tuteur trompe*, composed by Lepicq, concluded the entertainment.

In the course of the month there was a masked ball at this theatre, at which the company was not remarkably numerous, though the beauties of the age, ornamented for conquest, presented a spectacle which perhaps no neighbouring nation could parallel. The characters were but few in number, and those unvaried and tasteless. A *Gypsy* by Mr. T. was, in our opinion, the best; his wit and satire was animated and chaste; he now and then libelled virtue, but his general butt was the frailty and folly of the day, which he placed in laughable caricature. *Mungo* was admirably supported through the whole night.

A groupe of *New Zealanders* were most characteristically habited and tattooed.—As to their manners, if we may be allowed to imitate the conduct of a rival print, and give our judgement on that of which we confess ourselves to be ignorant, they were strictly *savage* and appropriate.

private. A groupe of *Highlanders* had also character. They danced the reel with infinite taste. Several of the female characters were admirably represented, and in their fancy-dresses they discovered charming luxury.

The Prince of Wales and the foreign noblemen were in the rooms a considerable time, accompanied by the Earl of Cholmondeley, and other men of quality.

Lepicq's benefit was very crowded, and no wonder, when the bill of fare held out Demoloonte,

with Pacchierotti, and new dances by Lepicq, Vestris, Theodore, and Rossi. Some little dispute had happened, about an under part in a dance, at a benefit, which Vestris had then taken *for that night only*: but as the audience were displeased that it was not repeated, he read a defence in French, *cap in hand*, from the stage, promising to resume the part, if it was desired. He was much applauded, and the town seemed perfectly satisfied.

THE Siddons closed her theatrical season in London, on the thirteenth of May, with the character of Belvidera. She spends the summer partly in Scotland, and partly in Ireland, where we venture to prophecy that her wonderful powers will be felt and rewarded.

We must defer our account of the opening of Mr. Colman's theatre. Great expectations are formed, and as we have heard of several new

pieces, which are to be produced there, we dare say they will not be disappointed. The abilities of the manager are universally acknowledged, and as the town will be fuller than usual this summer, on account of the new parliament, it must be supposed that he will make the greatest exertions, in order to allure the company to his theatre.

LITERARY REVIEW.

ARTICLE LIX.

ELEMENTS of Jurisprudence treated of in the preliminary Part of a Course of Lectures on the Laws of England. 4to. Payne.

THESE are six lectures delivered by Mr. Woodeson, the Vinerian Professor at Oxford, successor to the late Sir William Blackstone, and are intended as an introduction to the course of Lectures which the professor's duty obliges him to read at certain times. The successor to Sir William Blackstone (who has given so accurate a view of the laws of England, and drawn so fine an outline of the whole subject) must find himself anticipated, and the way he means to take almost stopped up wheresoever he turns himself. The present professor is perfectly aware of this, and in p. 109 says, "The publication of the admired Commentaries which first did honour to this institution, in which every subject is just so far entered into that the parts are systematically proportioned to the whole, undoubtedly has assisted the labours of every student of the law, and I may add (not with a view to condolence, but in the way of apology) that it has equally increased the difficulties of the Professor's office."

We may venture to assert, that the professor's knowledge and ex-

perience will render such an apology unnecessary, and by pursuing the plan proposed in these lectures, he will throw new lights on the subject, by placing it in fresh points of view, and supply some vacancies left in the former great work, as not coming immediately within the plan. One of these will be an explanation of the doctrine concerning the mode of acquiring personal property by *captures at sea*.

These Lectures being merely elementary, chiefly consist of general principles, derived from Ethic writers and civilians. The first lecture treats "Of the laws of Man's nature." The second, "Of Civil positive or instituted Law." In this lecture the learned Professor has laid down some positions concerning migration, in which we cannot agree with him.

"I have (he says) here been speaking of the original formation or cement of any civil society or state. For, as to the second point, respecting the right of migration, I am far from maintaining, that any consent, tacit or express, is essential to induce the duty of sub-

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jection from individuals born under an established government.

“ The obligation of *natural* law is of universal extent and perpetual duration. The duties also of *civil* life, though not indeed equally permanent or sacred, cannot, I apprehend, be discarded at pleasure; and that no individual has a moral right to cast off his allegiance to the state, and migrate into another country, *contrary to the declared will of the sovereign power*. I do not meddle with the question, whether colonies have any right, and in what situation of affairs, to separate from the superior state: as to which point I have met with nothing sufficient to inform my judgement: but as to individuals, they cannot cease to be under the protection of government, and of course to owe subjection to it, while they are carrying such design of spontaneous exile into execution. To obey also the lawful commands of our civil governors is a duty binding on the conscience. To these considerations may be added that of gratitude, which is too much excluded from political and national concerns; and another principle, virtuous in itself, and laudable under due regulations, I mean that love of our country, which should incite us to promote its welfare and defence.

“ Any restraint indeed on the power of migration is repugnant to the panegyric which Cicero* pronounces on the ancient laws of Rome. “ *O jura præclara atque divinitus jam inde a principio Romani nominis a majoribus nostris comparata, ne quis nostrum plus quam unius civitatis esse possit: (dissimilitudo enim civitatum varietatem juris habeat necesse est) ne quis invitatus civitate mutetur, neve in civitate maneat invitatus. Hæc enim sunt fundamenta firmissima nostræ libertatis, sui, quemque juris et retinendi et dimittendi esse dominum.*” It is true likewise, that, among the Roman laws of a more recent date, we find it written: “ *De sua quæ civitate cuique constituendi facultas libera est†.*” But Grotius‡, in explaining this and another passage in the Digests to the same effect, shews

that the licence in effect was only to remove from one part of the Roman state to another, and was founded in political expedience. And although Mr. Locke§ maintains that a child is born a subject of no country or government, yet, sincerely professing a general deference to his opinions, I shall assert, that the laws of this country seem to have reason on their side, when they speak of *natural-born* subjects, and when they consider allegiance due from the time of protection afforded, without regard had to the possession of lands, or other property.

“ In shewing how subjection to any state may cease and determine, Puffendorf|| describes it as one mode, when a man, by *permission* of his own common-wealth, voluntarily removes into the territories of another, and settles himself and his effects there, and the hopes of his future fortunes. But whether such permission generally exists or not, he refers to the municipal institutions of each country to determine: and this he holds to be the just criterion, even in the case of such who being of foreign birth associate themselves to any established common-wealth. Hence it may be inferred, that in the opinion of this writer, who made such deep researches into first principles, there is at least no repugnance to natural morality in municipal laws, which, like those of Muscovy¶, lay a general restraint, or, like those of England, provide a specific mode to be occasionally used of preventing the migration of any one or more citizens.

“ The same author asserts, that, where there is a general licence of migration, those who remove ought in duty and honour to signify their projected departure, unless there is good reason to believe that it will not be a matter of national concern. He maintains, that persons in employment ought to have the express consent of the ruling powers, whose territories they purpose to abandon: and he agrees with Grotius**, that we ought not, from principles of moral obligation,

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* *Pro L. Balbo.*† *D. l. xlix. t. 15. l. 12. p. 9.*‡ *B. ii. c. 5. § 24.*§ *On Civ. Gov. § 118.*|| *B. viii. c. 11.*¶ *Grot. b. ii. c. 5. § 24.*** *Ibid.*

to desert and renounce our country, oppressed with public debts, involved in calamities, or threatened with invasion. But in one point they differ. Grotius affirms that such migrations ought not, without the consent of government, to be made in companies very large and numerous, in as much as it is one thing to draw water out of a river, and another to divert the course of it: such dispeopling would be ruinous to the state, and defeat the ends of civil society: *and on moral occasions, what is necessary to obtain the end has the force of law.* This sentiment, however, Puffendorf strenuously opposes, arguing, that what is lawful for one is lawful for many; but with less shew of reason, for both this and the former points, in which they are unanimous, seem to stand on the same foundation, a due and conscientious regard to be had to the public safety and prosperity."

Sorry though we are to differ from the learned professor in any instance, and do it with great caution, and though there may be a necessity at this time of particularly inculcating the obligation of a moral duty, to prevent emigration, yet there is something in these positions, and in the doctrines attempted to be established, which militates so strongly against the natural rights of mankind, and is so repugnant to our feelings, that we cannot help dissenting from them, and endeavouring to explain our reasons for so doing.

Where subjects are grievously oppressed by their governors there are but two methods of getting rid of such oppression—one is by resistance—the other by migration. If it is contended that every individual is morally bound not to act contrary to the declared will of the sovereign power, the learned professor means to revive all the absurdity of the justly exploded doctrines of passive obedience and non-resistance. But mankind are at present too much enlightened to listen to such arguments. For, if general consent, whether express or implied, constitutes government, as admitted in these lectures, and puts power into any parti-

cular hands, it is but natural and reasonable to conclude that it is only a trust created for the security and happiness of the community in general who gave that consent. For *the many*, however deficient in the more subtle distinctions of schoolmen as to the use that may be made of power after it is once obtained, never consented to put the sword into the hands of *the few*, for the mere purpose of cutting their throats, or taking away their property. To prevent that, they who delegated the power must resume it, in order to place it in other hands that will act more for the benefit of general society. But many conscientious persons, though they admit the legality of resistance in the last instance, prefer the more quiet and peaceable method of abandoning their country and their connexions, and seeking another place of residence, where oppression either civil or religious does not exist in such force. It was the latter exertion which drove the puritans to America, whose descendants, unhappily for us, have so well asserted their own rights, and defended the principles of their ancestors. But to say that subjects oppressed with heavy taxes to pay public debts contracted to gratify the corruption or iniquity of governors; or involved in calamities brought on them by the tyranny or ignorance of those in power, shall neither resist or renounce their country to eschew those evils, is to say, that a bridle shall be put in the mouths and a hook in the nostrils of the subjects, that they may be ridden by their rulers with greater ease and safety; it is also to say, that a man shall not remove from a fire though he finds it burning him. Historical examples are not wanting to shew how oppressive and tyrannical the declared will of the sovereign power may and can be—to what dreadful lengths it has gone, and how little we know where it will stop. Even in a government like ours where any one branch of the constitution has by corrupt or forcible means obtained a power over both or one of the other parts, so as to destroy the balance, it becomes sovereign and despotic. This was exemplified in the civil

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civil wars of this kingdom in the last century; for whether Charles the First before his troubles, or the long parliament afterwards, assumed the sovereign power, it was equally tyranny, being contrary to the government established by the laws made by the consent of the people.

If to destroy the proposition, *that resistance or migration is lawful*, contributes to strengthen the hand of oppression, by supporting the principle, that individuals are under a moral obligation to bear all the evils which may be brought on them by the folly, villainy, or corruption of the rulers of any country where they are born, it follows, that to establish the contrary of that proposition would consequently tend to enlarge the natural rights of mankind—would teach governors to consult the ease and happiness of their subjects more, and their own emoluments and the gratification of their own passions less; lest they should become kings without people. For the argument, that a man born in Turkey and educated a Mahometan therefore ought not to change his religion, though upon conviction that Christianity will more surely effect his salvation, may be as well maintained as that which means to prove, that a man born in a country oppressed with public debts, involved in public calamities, governed by tyrants, and in which he can neither enjoy his property or possess civil and religious liberty, may not quit that country, to go and reside in another where he shall suffer none of those disadvantages. We do not recollect ever to have seen it attempted to be established as a moral obligation that a man should exhaust his private fortune in compliance with *the declared will of the sovereign power*, in order to support wicked or foolish measures, which must necessarily involve his country in public calamities—that power can take his property from him in the shape of taxation, and unless he quits that country he must unavoidably contribute to the support of those measures which must necessarily induce a total destruction of his property. If individuals are morally bound not to

resist or migrate, absolute power will soon render all conscientious men slaves.

Men will suffer greatly before they can be brought to entertain the idea of totally deserting a country where they have been born and bred, with the laws, customs, and language of which they are well acquainted; where they have fixed their friendships, and formed their more tender connexions. Add to this the unaccountable passion for and attachment to the *natale solum*, which pervades every breast from the Caffres of the Cape of Good Hope to the inhabitants of the polar circle.—But this attachment is to be destroyed by oppression—by a deprivation of civil liberty, and a prospect of greater impending evils, if greater can be.—A comparison of a situation like this with the benefits enjoyed by others in a neighbouring, or even a distant country, will naturally draw attention, and create a wish to enjoy the like. Hence arises migration. But, were it the scheme of policy, or the principle of emulation amongst princes, to consult and establish the happiness and welfare of their subjects in particular, and mankind in general; to contrive to enlarge, not to abridge the rights of the human species; and being men themselves wish to govern men, no such thing as migration would be heard of or known. For, though all countries were equally favourable to liberty, and property equally secure in all, and though the richness of soil and temperature of climate in some places might be supposed to hold out such allurements as would tempt a continual influx of inhabitants, and that the consequence would be an excess of population in some places, whilst others would be deserted, yet that is an event which could never take place for many physical reasons which might be adduced, and were it likely to happen, we should see instances now of nations migrating to more favourable regions than those they possess. In the present state of things we see nothing like it, since the migration of the northern swarms which overrun Europe at the decline of the Roman empire, and who were driven by force or a

want of subsistence from their habitations to seek for a settlement elsewhere. Nature has adapted the inhabitants to the climate; and though man can bear a vicissitude better than any other animal, yet he prefers his native air and soil. The inhabitant of Greenland would not exchange his six months night of ease, his rancid oil, and unextinguished lamp, for the vertical suns of Africa, its gold and its fruits, though he were to be made emperor there.

Instead then of inculcating the doctrine, that a member of a civil society is under a moral obligation to remain in a country under every possible oppression, or even in the predicaments pointed out by Grotius, only because it is the country he was born in, and where these evils are induced by the corruption, the tyranny, or wickedness of the ruling power, rather let the writer who treats of the obligations of morality insist, that every man who finds himself injured in his liberty and property in one country is perfectly justified in removing to another. So let him teach the unfeeling hearts of those in power to respect the sacred rights of humanity as the conduct most essential to their own interest, and let them be thus instructed, that the surest method of making themselves great is by making their people happy—by establishing their liberty, and securing their property.

A vessel nearly full of water will admit of a certain weight to float on its surface, which will fill it to the brim: add more weight, the water will overflow and find the way to escape from the pressure. England has been heretofore indebted to the addition of that weight in other countries, which sent some of their best artificers hither. If our vessel is nearly full we should be cautious of increasing the pressure, lest it may overflow, and with the efflux our most valuable treasures be carried away, leaving only dregs behind.

The third lecture treats “Of the several Species of Magistracy.” The fourth “Of the Law of Nations”—the fifth “Of the Laws of England

in a general View, and with Respect to the various Sources from which they have been derived.” The sixth and last lecture treats “Of the Study and Profession of the Laws of England, with a Delineation of the Plan pursued in the remaining Lectures.”

In this plan the learned professor has differed from that pursued by his predecessor, and adopted that which has been taught by the institutes of Justinian, as more clear and analytically just. Whether that is really the case does not at present rest with us to decide, but this difference in the plan will no doubt be attended with the good effect of elucidating the subject more fully, by this new disposition in the mode of treating it.

These lectures are worth the attention of the student entering upon the laborious task of reading law. The two last particularly contain several useful hints and necessary directions to those who are beginning that tedious journey. We shall conclude this article with some extracts from this work, which, with that already given, will serve as a specimen of the manner of treating the subject, and the language.

“The respective excellencies of the three simple forms of government (monarchy, aristocracy, and democracy) have been discussed in different ages by various other disputants besides those recorded by Xenophon. I shall here mention two opinions in relation to this subject, which, though of extensive prevalence, may yet be reasonably doubted, if not easily confuted.

“The favourers of unlimited monarchy, and indeed others too, assert that no establishment can be happier, when the prince is wise and virtuous;

*Nunquam libertas gratior extat
Quam sub Rege pio.*

“Against this opinion, the forcible expression of Aristotle* is justly levelled, ‘*αὐτὸν οὐδέποτε νοῦς ὁ νόμος*,’—‘the spirit of the law is exempt from human passions and affections.’ For these men place political happiness or liberty in casual and precarious enjoyment, depending on the present will of the sovereign, subject to his possible mutability

* Politic. I. iii. c. 16.

bility of temper and other infirmities, exposed to insidious arts, and disturbed at least with the dread, that a Titus may be succeeded by a Domitian. Whereas there only is liberty, where it is fortified by legal securities; where it is possessed, not *ex gratia* from the prince, but *ex debito* from the constitution; where it not only escapes violation, but is set above disparagement and indignity.

“The other opinion also is not uncommonly received, though at least very doubtful, namely, that monarchy is preferable to aristocracy, where both are abused; in other words, that it is better to have one than a plurality of tyrants. This latter mode of speaking is what seems to have seduced men into such sentiment. The following expressions of the President Montesquieu may tend to make us of the contrary persuasion: ‘The number of magistrates (says he) * sometimes moderates the power of the magistracy; the whole body of the nobles do not always concur in the same design; and different tribunals are erected, which temper each other.’ We may add, that if a subject finds an oppressor in one of his superiors, in another he may experience a patron and benefactor, to protect from injustice, and to make the cause of the sufferer his own. At the worst, tyrannical oligarchies are not likely to be of long duration. An elective and well-constituted aristocracy is, in Burlamaqui’s† opinion, the most perfect of the simple forms. The brutality and ignorance of the vulgar, the tumults of crowded assemblies, and the impracticability of summoning to council the inhabitants of extensive regions, disqualify the people at large from any share of government, except in elections; as to which exercise of power, a moderate degree of capacity, with good intentions, may avail. Upon the whole, it seems agreed by many rational inquirers, not of this only, but of foreign nations, that the mixed constitution of Britain is far preferable to any of the simple

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forms, or other models hitherto devised.

“Every free constitution, however, presupposes a due portion of public virtue, without which the fundamental laws are of little or no energy or avail. If a nation should sink, like ancient Rome, into irretrievable corruption, it is hard to determine what would be the best form of government for such a people, with respect to their internal and domestic welfare; but there is no hazardous boldness in pronouncing, that absolute monarchy is the aptest means of promoting their external security, grandeur, and renown.”

To which we must add, a sincere wish that we may have always public virtue enough to prevent such a change in our constitution.

“The subject of this discourse now leads me to speak of the profession of an advocate; an employment or situation which in Rome was frequently assumed by the greatest men in the commonwealth; and which (if it hath in any measure abated of its extrinsic dignity and repute) hath still (as Domat‡ infists) the essential characters of honour annexed to functions, which in their nature imply the use of the first qualities of the mind, and of the chief virtues of the heart§. It is treated as a splendid distinction of the Roman advocates, that they accepted no pecuniary reward for their conduct and defence of causes; which was expressly prohibited by the Circian law. But in effect they reaped abundant and satisfactory recompence, by making their forensic talents subservient to the purposes of ambition. As soon, therefore, as the government was changed, and the favour of the people ceased to be any longer the disposer of preferments, the Roman lawyers, grown perfidious and corrupt, under the specious name and thin pretext of *honorarium*, not only accepted gifts, but the largeness of them was found necessary to be restrained by a public decree|| of the Emperor in the senate, which prescribed ten sesterces as the highest limit of

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of

* Sp. of Laws, b. xi. c. 6. † Pol. Law, p. ii. c. 2. ‡ Pub. Law, b. ii. t. 6. § The credit of the profession is not only supported, but raised to a very high pitch, in the speech delivered to the newly created serjeants, in Poph. 43, and the following pages. || Tac. Annal. l. xi. c. 5, 6, 7.

of pecuniary compensation. Yet the idea, that the remuneration of an advocate was *honorarium*, and not the price of mercenary labour, was adopted, like several other notions and expressions of the Civilians, into the English courts. Perhaps this was an unnecessary compliment to the profession. He that engages his care and diligence for the advantage of others is both justly and honourably intitled to a suitable recompence from the public, if their interest is concerned, from individuals, if their benefit is consulted by the person employed. Thus men in the most respectable stations, the civil and military officers of government, ecclesiastics*, and with like reason lawyers, may without disparagement receive a fair profit, as the fruit of those occupations to which they have devoted their attention.

"The Roman law† obliged advocates by an oath, either not to engage in, or immediately to relinquish the support of a cause that appeared notoriously unjust. This regulation seems liable to much casual abuse. A scrupulous advocate might entertain too unfavourable an opinion of his client's case, and too precipitately desert it, through a terror, however groundless, of incurring the guilt of perjury.

"In France, where the imperial

constitutions are much incorporated with the municipal law, the oath of the advocates is only general, faithfully to perform the duties of their function; which solemnity, with the degree of a bachelor of civil and canon law‡, taken in some university, forms the requisite conditions of practising in the courts of that kingdom§. Cases certainly may arise, in which it is becoming in an advocate to decline any farther contest; but even this principle, through a mixture of unskilfulness and a scrupulous temper, might be carried to a dangerous excess. It is, however, his constant and undoubted duty not to advise frivolous litigation, not to be a party or privy to injustice or fraudulent combinations, and not by undue means to support even a rightful cause.

"Deceit and evil practices in English advocates is punishable by a very ancient statute||; which Lord Coke¶ ascribes to the tricks and shifts that had been used in the preceding reign, especially in favour of great men: and we meet, in a book of authority**, with an indictment grounded, as it appears, wholly on the common law (that is, without the aid of any statute to support it) against a counsellor, for taking fees on both sides, and betraying his client's cause."

ART. LX. *Essays on Shakspeare's dramatic Characters of Richard the Third, King Lear, and Timon of Athens. To which are added, an Essay on the Faults of Shakspeare; and additional Observations on the Character of Hamlet.* By Mr. Richardson, Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow. 8vo. Murray.

THE success which attended a former philosophical analysis of some remarkable characters in Shakspeare's plays has encouraged their ingenious author to lay before the public another

volume of Essays, in which he has investigated with the same taste and accuracy Richard III. King Lear, and Timon of Athens.

To his former work Mr. Richardson

* South's Serm. vol. i. serm. 4.—The same learned and ingenious author writes (vol. ii. 145.) that "in Athens they circumscribed the pleadings of their orators by a strict law, cutting off prologues and epilogues, and commanding them to an immediate representation of the case, by an impartial and succinct declaration of mere matter of fact. And this was indeed to speak things fit for a judge to hear, because it argued the pleader also a judge of what was fit for him to speak." This seems in effect commanding men by law to be able pleaders, without affording much help to the understandings of the judges and auditors to distinguish whether the law (if any such ever existed) was complied with. † Cod. l. iii. t. 1. §. 14.

‡ No degree in canon law has been conferred by the university of Oxford since the revival of the statutes by Archbishop Laud, nor probably for a long time before; though in one at least of the colleges there, founded in the reign of Henry the Sixth, an express precedence is given to canonists above civilians.

§ Dorn. pub. law, b. ii. t. 6. || 3 E. I. c. 29. ¶ 2 Inst. 213. ** Trem. P. C. 261.

son prefixed an introductory essay, in which he explained the nature of his design, and insisted, with great justice, on the importance of experiment, in the philosophy of the mind as well as of the body. At the same time, he observed, that it was infinitely more difficult to pursue a course of mental, than of corporeal experiments. In physics, if the process is right, the result must be uniform, because the qualities of body are fixed, and the laws by which they operate determined. In the mind, however, the motions are progressive, the transitions abrupt and instantaneous, their attitudes uncertain and momentary, and the operations complex. The course of the passions is rapid, and changed or modified by a variety of causes which frequently elude the most minute observation.

What advantages then would be derived to philosophical investigation, if the actual position of the mind could be fixed in any given circumstances till it was deliberately examined? If the causes which change its feelings could be pointed out with accuracy, and ascertained with precision?

To arrive at this desirable end, observes our author, dramatic poetry seems to be the high road, and of dramatic poets Shakspeare appears to be the most eligible guide, as his characters are so infinite in their variety, and so happily and so successfully delineated.

Such is the account which Mr. Richardson formerly gave of his design. In the execution of it, he has shewn with what attention and taste he has contemplated this faithful representer of Nature. He has traced the various influence of external causes upon the characters which he has exhibited. Hence he proves the truth of conception with which the poet thought and wrote; and in the reflections to which his views of these fictitious personages give rise, we find him as usual the friend of virtue, truth, and philosophy. Mr. Richardson, indeed, is one of the few authors who possess ingenuity without refinement, taste without capriciousness, and learning without pedantry.

In our narrow limits we cannot attempt to follow Mr. R. through his examination of all the characters which this work contains. We must content ourselves with giving a specimen. From such a specimen, however, we do not doubt but that our readers will be allured to the perusal of the whole volume.

The passage which we propose to give is from the essay on the dramatic character of King Lear. After some general remarks, our author thus proceeds:

“Those who are guided in their conduct by impetuous impulse, arising from sensibility, and undirected by reflection, are liable to extravagant or outrageous excess. Transported by their own emotions, they misapprehend the condition of others: they are prone to exaggeration; and even the good actions they perform excite amazement rather than approbation. Lear, an utter stranger to adverse fortune, and under the power of excessive affection, conceived his children in every respect deserving. During this ardent and inconsiderate mood, he ascribed to them such corresponding sentiments as justified his extravagant fondness. He saw his children as the gentlest and most affectionate of the human race. What condescension, on his part, could be a suitable reward for their filial piety? He divides his kingdom among them; they will relieve him from the cares of royalty; and to his old age will afford consolation.

He shakes all cares and business from his age,
Conferring them on younger strengths.

But he is not only extravagant in his love; he is no less outrageous in his displeasure. Kent, moved with zeal for his interest, remonstrates, with the freedom of conscious integrity, against his conduct to Cordelia; and Lear, impatient of good counsel, not only rebukes him with unbecoming asperity, but inflicts unmerited punishment.

Five days we do allot thee for provision,
To shield thee from disasters of the world;
And on the sixth to turn thy hated back
Upon our kingdom: if on the tenth day following
Thy banish'd trunk be found in our dominions,
The moment is thy death.

“The conduct proceeding from unguided feeling will be *capricious*. In minds where principles of regular and permanent influence have no authority, every feeling has a right to command; and every impulse, how sudden soever, is regarded, during the season of its power, with entire approbation.

“All such feelings and impulses are not only admitted, but obeyed; and lead us, without hesitation or reflection, to a corresponding deportment. But the objects with which we are conversant often vary their aspects, and are seen by us in different attitudes. This may be owing to accidental connection or comparison with other things, of a similar or of a different nature; or it may be owing, and this is most frequently the

case, to some accidental mood or humour of our own. A fine landscape, viewed in different lights, shall appear more or less beautiful; yet the landscape in itself shall remain unaltered; nor will the person who views it pronounce it in reality less beautiful than it was, though he sees it with a setting rather than with a rising sun. The capricious inconstancy of their character is very apt to display itself, when unfortunately they form expectations, and sustain disappointments. Moved by an ardent mood, they regard the objects of their affection with extravagant transport; they transfer to them their own dispositions; they make no allowance for differences of condition or state of mind; and expect returns suitable to their own unreasonable ardours. They are disappointed; they feel pain: in proportion to the violence of the disappointed passion is the pang of repulse. This routes a sense of wrong, and excites their resentment. The new feelings operate with as much force as the former. No enquiry is made concerning the reasonableness of the conduct they would produce. Resentment and indignation are felt; and merely because they are felt they are deemed just and becoming.

"Cordelia was the favourite daughter of Lear. Her sisters had replied to him with an extravagance suited to the extravagance of his affection. He expected much more from Cordelia. Yet her reply was better suited to the relation that subsisted between them than to the tenderness of his present humour. He is disappointed, pained, and provoked. There is no gentle advocate in his bosom to mitigate the rigours of his displeasure. He follows the blind impulse of his resentment; abuses and abandons Cordelia.

Let it be so; thy truth then be thy dower:
For, by the sacred radiance of the sun,
Here I disclaim all my paternal care,
Propinquity, and property of blood;
And, as a stranger to my heart and me,
Hold thee from this for ever.

"Unhappy are they who have established no system concerning the character of their friends; and who have ascertained, by the aid of reason or observation, no measure of their virtues or infirmities. There is no affectionate inmate in their bosoms, the vicegerent of indulgent affection, to plead in your behalf, if from inadvertency, or the influence of a wayward, but transient mood, affecting either you or themselves, you act differently from your wonted conduct, or differently from their expectations. Thus their appearances are as variable as that of theameleon: they now shine with the fairest colours; and in an instant they are changed into fable. In vain would you ask for a reason. You may enquire of the winds; or question their morning dreams. Yet they are ardent in protestations; they give assurances of lasting attachment; but they are not to be trusted. Not that they intend to deceive you. They have no such intention. They are vessels without rudder or anchor, driven by every blast that blows. Their assurances are the colours impressed by a sun-beam on the breast of a watery cloud: they are formed into a beautiful figure; they shine for a moment with every exquisite tint; in a

moment they vanish, and leave nothing but a drizzly shower in their stead.

"Those who are guided by inconsiderate feeling will often appear variable in their conduct, and of course irresolute. There is no variety of feeling to which persons of great sensibility are more liable than that of great elevation or depression of spirits. The sudden and unaccountable transitions from the one to the other are not less striking than the vast difference of which we are conscious in the one mood or in the other. In an elevated state of spirits, we form projects, entertain hopes, conceive ourselves capable of high exertion, think highly of ourselves, and in this hour of transport undervalue obstacles or opposition. In a moment of depression, the scene is altered: the sky lowers; nature ceases to smile; or if she smiles, it is not to us; we feel ourselves feeble, forsaken, and hopeless; all things, human and divine, have conspired against us. Having no adequate opinion of ourselves, or no just apprehension of the state of opinions concerning us, we think that no great exertion or display of merit is expected from us, and of course we grow indifferent about our conduct. Thus the mind at one instant aspires to heaven, is bold, enterprising, disdainful, and supercilious: the wind changes—we are baffled or fatigued; and the spirit formerly so full of ardour becomes humble and passive.

"Lear had suffered insult and ingratitude from his eldest daughter. He boils with resentment; he expresses it with imprecations, and leaves her: but his mind, harassed and teased, suffers sore agitation, and is enfeebled. He looks of course for relief; indulges confidence in his second daughter; from her he expects consolation; anticipates a kindly reception; yields to that depression of mind which is connected with the wish and expectation of pity, he longs to complain; and to mingle his tears with the sympathetic sorrows of Regan. Thus entirely reduced, he discerns, even in Regan, symptoms of disaffection. Yet, in his present state, he will not believe them. They are forced upon his observation; and Kent, who was exiled for wishing to moderate his wrath against Cordelia, is obliged to stimulate his displeasure at Regan. Yet, in the weakness of his present depression, and longings for affectionate pity, he would repose on her tenderness, and addresses her with full confidence in her love:

No, Regan, thou shalt never have my curse.

———'Tis not in thee

To bandy hasty words, to scant my sizes, &c.

———Thou better know'st

The offices of nature.

"In the whole intercourse between Lear and Regan, we see a contest between Lear's indignant and resentful emotions, excited by the indications of Regan's disaffection, and those fond expectations and desires of sympathetic tenderness, which proceed from, and in their turn contribute to, depression of spirit. Thus he condescends to entreat and remonstrate:

I gave you all!

"At length, repulsed and insulted by Regan, totally cast down and enfeebled, he forgets his determined hatred of Goneril; and in the misery

fery of his depression, irresolute and inconsistent, he addresses her as his last resource :

———Not being the worst,
Stands in some need of praise ; I'll go with thee ;
Thy fifty yet doth double five-and-twenty,
And thou hast twice her love.

" Here he is again disappointed. He has no other resource. His mind, originally of a keen and impetuous nature, is now unoccupied by any tender sentiment. Accordingly, at the close of this interesting scene, we see him forcing himself, as it were, from his depression, and expressing his undiminished resentment :

You Heavens, give me that patience which I need ;
You see me here, you gods, a poor old man,
As full of grief as age ; wretched in both !
If it be you that stir these daughters' hearts
Against their father, fool me not so much
To bear it tamely ; touch me with noble anger :
O let not women's weapons, water-drops,
Stain my man's cheeks : no, you unnatural hags,
I will have such revenges on you both,
That all the world shall—I will do such things—
What they are, yet I know not ; but they shall be
The terrors of the earth. You think I'll weep—
No, I'll not weep.
I have full cause of weeping ; but this heart
Shall break into an hundred thousand flaws,
Or e'er I'll weep.—O Fool, I shall go mad.

" Inconsistency of conduct, and, of consequence, irresolution, occasioned by irregular and undirected feelings, proceed from other states of mind than depression of spirits. Of this, some examples different from the present now occur to me. They illustrate the general position, and may therefore be mentioned.

" Lorenzo de Medicis* had a lively fancy ; he was a courtier—ambitious—and had his imagination filled with ideas of pageantry. He wished to enjoy pre-eminence ; but his brother Alexander, the reigning prince, was an obstacle to be removed ; and this could only be done by spoiling him of his life. The difficulty no doubt was great ; yet, it figured less to his heated imagination than the dignity and enjoyment he had in view. Elegant in his manners ; accomplished with every pleasing endowment ; of soft and insinuating address ; he had, nevertheless, no secret counsellor in his breast to plead in behalf of justice. Thus prompted, and thus unguarded, he perpetrates the death of his brother. He sees his blood streaming ; hears him groaning in the agonies of death ; beholds him convulsed in the pangs of departing life : a new set of feelings arise ; the delicate, accomplished courtier, who could meditate atrocious injury, cannot, without being ashamed, witness the bloody object ; he remains motionless ; irresolute ; appalled at the deed ; and in this state of amazement, neither prosecutes his design, nor thinks of escaping. Thus, without struggle or opposition, he is seized, and punished as he deserves.

" Voltaire gives a similar account of his hero, Lewis. After describing in lively colours the desolation perpetrated by his authority in the palatinate ; the conflagration of cities, and the utter ruin of the inhabitants, he subjoins, that these orders were issued from Versailles, from

the midst of pleasures ; and that, on a nearer view, the calamities he thus occasioned would have filled him with horror. That is, Lewis, like all men of irregular sensibility, was governed by the influences of objects operating immediately on his senses ; and so according to such accidental mood as depended on present images he was humane or inhuman. Lewis and Lorenzo, in those instances, were men of feeling, but not of virtue. They were a-kin to Lady Macbeth, who advised and determined the murder of Duncan, and who would have executed the deed herself ; but with the dagger lifted, in act to strike, of such sensibility, so tender, she could not proceed—the old man resembled her father.

" The man of ungoverned sensibility is in danger of becoming morose or inhuman. He entertains sanguine hopes : he allows every feeling to reign in his breast uncontrolled ; his judgement is dazzled ; and his imagination riots in rapturous dreams of enjoyment. Every object of his wishes is arrayed in seducing colours, and brought immediately within his reach. He engages in the pursuit ; encounters difficulties of which he was not aware ; his ravishing expectations subside ; he had made no provision for arduous adventure ; his imagination becomes a traitor ; the dangers and difficulties appear more formidable than they really are ; and he abandons his undertaking. His temper is of consequence altered. No longer elated with hope, he becomes the prey of chagrin, of envy, or of resentment. Even suppose him successful ; his enjoyments are not equal to his hopes. His desires were excessive, and no gratification whatever can allay the vehemence of their ardour. He is discontented, restless, and unhappy. In a word, irregular feelings, and great sensibility, produce extravagant desires ; these lead to disappointment ; and in minds that are undisciplined, disappointment begets moroseness and anger. These dispositions again will display themselves, according to the condition or character of him who feels them. Men of feeble constitutions, and without power over the fortunes of other men, under such malign influences become fretful, invidious, and misanthropical. Persons of firmer structure, and unfortunately possessed of power, under such direction become inhuman. Herod was a man of feeling. Witness his conduct to Mariamne. At one time elegant, courteous, and full of tenderness ; his fondness was as unbounded as the virtues and graces of Mariamne were peerless. At other times, offended because her expressions of mutual affection were not as extravagant as the extravagance of his own emotions, he became suspicious without cause. Thus affectionate, fond, suspicious, resentful, and powerful, in the phrenzy of irregular feeling he put to death Mariamne.

" Lear, in the representation of Shakspeare, possessing great sensibility, and full of affection, seeks a kind of enjoyment suited to his temper. Ascribing the same sensibility and affection to his daughters, for they must have it, no doubt, by hereditary right, he forms a pleasing dream of reposing his old age under the wings of their kindly protection. He is disappointed ; he feels extreme

* See Robertson's History of the reign of Charles V.

extreme pain and resentment; he vents his resentment; but he has no power. Will he then become morose and retired? His habits and temper will not give him leave. Impetuous, and accustomed to authority, consequently of an unyielding nature, he would wreak his wrath, if he were able, in deeds of excessive violence. He would do he knows not what. He who could pronounce such imprecations against Goneril, as, notwithstanding her guilt, appear shocking and horrid, would, in the moment of his resentment, have put her to death. If, without any ground of offence he could abandon Cordelia, and cast off his favourite child, what would he not have done to the unnatural and pitiless Regan?

"Here, then, we have a curious spectacle: a man accustomed to bear rule suffering fore disappointment, and grievous wrongs; high minded, impetuous, susceptible of extreme resentment, and incapable of yielding to morose silence, or malignant retirement. What change can befall his spirit? For his condition is so altered, that his spirit also must suffer change. What! but to have his understanding torn up by the hurricane of passion, to scorn consolation, and lose his reason! Shakspeare could not avoid making Lear distracted. Other poets exhibit madness, because they choose it, or for the sake of variety, or to deepen the distress: but Shakspeare has exhibited the madness of Lear, as the natural effect of such suffering on such a character. It was an event in the progress of Lear's mind, driven by such feelings, desires, and passions as the poet ascribes to him, as could not be avoided.

"It is sometimes observed, that there are three kinds of madness displayed in this performance: that of Lear, that of Edgar, and that of the Fool. The observation is inaccurate. The madness of Edgar is entirely pretended; and that of the Fool has also more affectation than reality. Accordingly, we find Lear for ever dwelling upon one idea, and reconciling every thing to one appearance. The storms and tempests were not his daughters. The gleams of reason that shoot athwart the darkness of his disorder render the gloom more horrid. Edgar affects to dwell upon one idea; he is haunted by fiends; but he is not uniform. The feeling he discovers, and compassion for the distresses of Lear, breaking out in spite of his counterfeit, render his speeches very often pathetic. The Fool, who has more honesty than understanding, and more understanding than he pretends, becomes an interesting character, by his attachment to his unfortunate master.

"Lear, thus extravagant, inconsistent, inconstant, capricious, variable, irresolute, and impetuously vindictive, is almost an object of disapprobation. But our poet, with his usual skill, blends the disagreeable qualities with such circumstances as correct this effect, and form one delightful assemblage. Lear, in his good intentions, was without deceit; his violence is not the effect of premeditated malignity; his weaknesses are not crimes, but often the effects of misruled affections. This is not all: he is an old man; an old king; an aged father; and the instruments of his suffering are undutiful chil-

dren. He is justly entitled to our compassion; and the incidents last mentioned, though they imply no merit, they procure some respect. Add to all this, that he becomes more and more interesting towards the close of the drama; not merely because he is more and more unhappy, but because he becomes really more deserving of our esteem. His misfortunes correct his misconduct; they rouse reflection, and lead him to that reformation which we approve. We see the commencement of this reformation, after he has been dismissed by Goneril, and meets with symptoms of disaffection in Regan. He who abandoned Cordelia with impetuous outrage, and banished Kent for offering an apology in her behalf, seeing his servant grossly maltreated, and his own arrival unwelcomed, has already sustained some chastisement: he does not express that ungoverned violence which his preceding conduct might lead us to expect. He restrains his emotion in its first ebullition, and reasons concerning the probable causes of what seemed so inauspicious:

LEAR. The King would speak with Cornwall; the dear father
Would his daughter speak, commands her service:
Are they inform'd of this?—My breath and blood!
Fiery—the fiery Duke? Tell the hot Duke that—
No—but not yet—may be he is not well—
Infirmity doth still neglect all office
Whereto our health is bound: we're not ourselves
When nature, being oppress'd, commands the mind
To suffer with the body—I'll forbear;
And am fallen out with my more heady will,
To take the indisposed and sickly fit
For the sound man.

"As his misfortunes increase, we find him still more inclined to reflect on his situation. He does not, indeed, express blame of himself; yet he expresses no sentiment whatever of overbearing conceit. He seems rational and modest; and the application to himself is extremely pathetic:

—Close pent up guilts,
Rive your concealing continents, and ask
These dreadful summoners grace.—I am a man
More sinn'd against than sinning.

"Soon after, we find him actually pronouncing censure upon himself. Hitherto he had been the mere creature of sensibility; he now begins to reflect; and grieves that he had not done so before.

Poor naked wretches, whereof'er you are,
That bide the pelting of this pitiless storm!
How shall your houseless heads, and unfed sides,
Your loop'd and window'd raggedness defend you
From seasons such as these?—O, I have ta'en
Too little care of this! Take physic, pomp,
Expose thyself to feel what wretches feel,
That thou may'st shake the superflux to them,
And shew the heavens more just.

"At last, he is in a state of perfect contrition, and expresses less resentment against Goneril and Regan, than self-condemnation for his treatment of Cordelia, and a perfect, but not extravagant sense of her affection.

KENT. The poor distressed Lear's in town,
Who sometimes in his better tune remembers
What

What we are come about, and by no means
Will yield to see his daughter.

GENT. Why, good Sir?

KENT. A sovereign shame so bows him, his
unkindness,

That stript her from his benediction, turn'd her
To foreign casualties, gave her dear rights
To his dog-hearted daughter: these things sting him
So venomously, that burning shame detains him
From his Cordelia.

"I have thus endeavoured to shew that mere
sensibility, undirected by reflection, leads men
to an extravagant expression both of social or
unsocial feelings; renders them capriciously in-
constant in their affections; variable, and of
course irresolute, in their conduct."

The characters of Richard and Timon are delineated by Mr. Richardson with the same accuracy of philosophical discrimination, and the additional observations on Hamlet confirm the remarks formerly published on that play.

The essay on the faults of Shakspeare opens a wide field for criticism. Mr. Richardson has taken an extensive range, and thus concludes:

"As the works of imagination consist of parts, the pleasure they yield is the effect of those parts united in one design. This effect may be felt; the relations of inferior, component parts, may be discerned; and their nature may be known. Taste is perfect, when sensibility, discernment, and knowledge are united. Yet, they are not indispensably united in the man of poetic invention. He must possess sensibility; but he may want knowledge and discernment. He will thus be liable to error. Guided solely by feeling, his judgement will be unsteady; he will, at periods of languor, become the slave of authority, or be seduced by unexamined maxims. Shakspeare was in this situation. Endowed with genius, he possessed all the taste that depended on feeling. But unimproved by the discernment of the philosophi-

cal, or the knowledge of the learned critic, his sensibility was exposed to perversion. He was misled by the general maxim that required him to 'follow nature.' He observed the rule in a limited sense. He copied the reality of external things; but disregarded that idea of excellence which seems inherent in the human mind. The rule, in its extended acceptation, requires that objects intended to please and interest the heart should produce their effect, by corresponding or consonant feelings. Now, this cannot be attained by representing objects as they appear. In every interesting representation, features and tints must be added to the reality; features and tints which it actually possesses must be concealed. The greatest blemishes in Shakspeare arose from his not attending to this important rule; and not preserving in his tragedies the proper tone of the work. Hence the frequent and unbecoming mixture of meanness and dignity in his expression; of the serious and ludicrous in his representation. His other faults are of less importance; and are charged to his want of sufficient knowledge, or care in correcting. In a word, though his merits far surpass those of every other dramatic writer, and may even apologize for his faults; yet, since the ardour of admiration may lead ingenious men to overlook, or imitate, his imperfections, it may be of some service 'to point them out, and endeavour to trace their causes.'"

We hope Mr. Richardson will continue to pursue this walk of literature, for which he seems peculiarly calculated. He possesses the happy talent of uniting amusement with instruction, and of mending the heart while he improves the understanding.

ART. LXI. *Lectures on Rhetoric and the Belles Lettres.* By Hugh Blair, D. D. one of the Ministers of the High Church, and Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the University of Edinburgh. 4to. 2 Vols. Cadell, Creech, &c.

(Continued from page 322.)

IN our last number we observed that the rules which Dr. Blair lays down concerning a sermon, considered as a particular species of composition, could not fail of being acceptable to

a numerous class of our readers. They are as follow:

"The first which I shall mention is, to attend to the unity of a sermon. Unity indeed is of great consequence in every

every composition; but in other discourses, where the choice and direction of the subject are not left to the speaker, it may be less in his power to preserve it. In a sermon, it must be always the preacher's own fault if he transgresses it. What I mean by unity is, that there should be some one main point to which the whole strain of the sermon shall refer. It must not be a bundle of different subjects strung together, but one object must predominate throughout. This rule is founded on what we all experience, that the mind can attend fully only to one capital object at a time. By dividing, you always weaken the impression. Now, this unity, without which no sermon can either have much beauty, or much force, does not require that there should be no divisions or separate heads in the discourse, or that one single thought only should be, again and again, turned up to the hearers in different lights. It is not to be understood in so narrow a sense: it admits of some variety; it admits of underparts and appendages, provided always that so much union and connection be preserved, as to make the whole concur in some one impression upon the mind. I may employ, for instance, several different arguments to enforce the love of God; I may also enquire, perhaps, into the causes of the decay of this virtue; still one great object is presented to the mind; but if, because my text says, "He that loveth God, must love his brother also," I should, therefore, mingle in one discourse arguments for the love of God, and for the love of our neighbour, I should offend unpardonably against unity, and leave a very loose and confused impression on the hearers minds.

"In the second place, sermons are always the more striking, and commonly the more useful, the more precise and particular the subject of them be. This follows, in a great measure, from what I was just now illustrating. Though a general subject is capable of being conducted with a considerable degree of unity, yet that unity can never be so complete as in

a particular one. The impression made must always be more undeterminate; and the instruction conveyed will commonly, too, be less direct and convincing. General subjects, indeed, such as the excellency or the pleasures of religion, are often chosen by young preachers, as the most showy, and the easiest to be handled; and, doubtless, general views of religion are not to be neglected, as on several occasions they have great propriety. But these are not the subjects most favourable for producing the high effects of preaching. They fall in almost unavoidably with the beaten track of common-place thought. Attention is much more commanded by seizing some particular view of a great subject, some single interesting topic, and directing to that point the whole force of argument and eloquence. To recommend some one grace or virtue, or to inveigh against a particular vice, furnishes a subject not deficient in unity or precision; but if we confine ourselves to that virtue or vice as assuming a particular aspect, and consider it as it appears in certain characters, or affects certain situations in life, the subject becomes still more interesting. The execution is, I admit, more difficult, but the merit and the effect are higher.

"In the third place, never study to say all that can be said upon a subject; no error is greater than this. Select the most useful, the most striking and persuasive topics which the text suggests, and rest the discourse upon these. If the doctrines which ministers of the Gospel preach were altogether new to their hearers, it might be requisite for them to be exceeding full on every particular, lest there should be any hazard of their not affording complete information. But it is much less for the sake of information than of persuasion, that discourses are delivered from the pulpit; and nothing is more opposite to persuasion, than an unnecessary and tedious fullness. There are always some things which the preacher may suppose to be known, and some things which he may only shortly touch. If he seek to omit nothing which his subject suggests, it will

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will unavoidably happen that he will encumber it, and weaken its force.

“In studying a sermon, he ought to place himself in the situation of a serious hearer. Let him suppose the subject addressed to himself: let him consider what views of it would strike him most; what arguments would be most likely to persuade him; what parts of it would dwell most upon his mind. Let these be employed as his principal materials; and in these it is most likely his genius will exert itself with the greatest vigour. The spinning and wire-drawing mode, which is not uncommon among preachers, enervates the noblest truths. It may indeed be a consequence of observing the rule which I am now giving, that fewer sermons will be preached upon one text than is sometimes done; but this will, in my opinion, be attended with no disadvantage. I know no benefit that arises from introducing a whole system of religious truth under every text. The simplest and most natural method by far, is to choose that view of a subject to which the text principally leads, and to dwell no longer on the text, than is sufficient for discussing the subject in that view, which can commonly be done, with sufficient profoundness and distinctness, in one or a few discourses: for it is a very false notion to imagine that they always preach the most profoundly, or go the deepest into a subject, who dwell on it the longest. On the contrary, that tedious circuit, which some are ready to take in all their illustrations, is very frequently owing either to their want of discernment for perceiving what is most important in the subject, or to their want of ability for placing it in the most proper point of view.

“In the fourth place, study above all things to render your instructions interesting to the hearers. This is a great trial, and mark of true genius for the eloquence of the pulpit: for nothing is so fatal to success in preaching as a dry manner. A dry sermon can never be a good one. In order to preach in an interesting manner, much will depend upon the delivery of a

discourse; for the manner in which a man speaks is of the utmost consequence for affecting his audience; but much will also depend on the composition of the discourse. Correct language, and elegant description, are but the secondary instruments of preaching in an interesting manner. The great secret lies in bringing home all that is spoken to the hearts of the hearers, so as to make every man think that the preacher is addressing him in particular. For this end, let him avoid all intricate reasonings; avoid expressing himself in general speculative propositions, or laying down practical truths in an abstract-metaphysical manner. As much as possible, the discourse ought to be carried on in the strain of direct address to the audience; not in the strain of one writing an essay, but of one speaking to a multitude, and studying to mix what is called application, or what has an immediate reference to practice, with the doctrinal and didactic parts of the sermon.

“It will be of much advantage to keep always in view the different ages, characters, and conditions of men, and to accommodate directions and exhortations to these different classes of hearers. Whenever you bring forth what a man feels to touch his own character, or to suit his own circumstances, you are sure of interesting him. No study is more necessary for this purpose, than the study of human life, and the human heart. To be able to unfold the heart, and to discover a man to himself, in a light in which he never saw his own character before, produces a wonderful effect. As long as the preacher hovers in a cloud of general observations, and descends not to trace the particular lines and features of manners, the audience are apt to think themselves unconcerned in the description. It is the striking accuracy of moral characters that gives the chief power and effect to a preacher's discourse. Hence, examples founded on historical facts, and drawn from real life, of which, kind the Scriptures afford many, always when they are well chosen command

high attention. No favourable opportunity of introducing these should be omitted. They correct in some degree that disadvantage to which I before observed preaching is subject, of being confined to treat of qualities in the abstract, not of persons, and place the weight and reality of religious truths in the most convincing light. Perhaps the most beautiful, and among the most useful sermons of any, though indeed the most difficult in composition, are such as are wholly characteristical, or founded on the illustration of some peculiar character, or remarkable piece of history, in the sacred writings; by pursuing which, one can trace, and lay open, some of the most secret windings of man's heart. Other topics of preaching have been much beaten; but this is a field which, wide in itself, has hitherto been little explored by the composers of sermons, and possesses all the advantages of being curious, new, and highly useful. Bishop Butler's sermon on the *character of Balaam* will give an idea of that sort of preaching which I have in my eye.

"In the fifth and last place, let me add a caution against taking the model of preaching from particular fashions that chance to have the vogue. These are torrents that swell to day, and have spent themselves by to-morrow. Sometimes it is the taste of poetical preaching, sometimes of philosophical, that has the fashion on its side; at one time it must be all pathetic, at another time all argumentative, according as some celebrated preacher has set the example. Each of these modes, in the extreme, is very faulty; and he who conforms himself to it will both cramp genius, and corrupt it. It is the universal taste of mankind, which is subject to no such changing modes, that alone is entitled to possess any authority; and this will never give its sanction to any strain of preaching, but what is founded on human nature, connected with usefulness, adapted to the proper idea of a Sermon, as a serious, persuasive oration, delivered to a multitude, in order to make them

Let a preacher form him-

self upon this standard, and keep it close in his eye, and he will be in a much surer road to reputation, and success at last, than by a servile compliance with any popular taste, or transient humour of his hearers. Truth and good sense are firm, and will establish themselves; mode and humour are feeble and fluctuating. Let him never follow implicitly any one example; or become a servile imitator of any preacher, however much admired. From various examples he may pick up much for his improvement; some he may prefer to the rest: but the servility of imitation extinguishes all genius, or rather is a proof of the entire want of genius."

In regard to the style which the pulpit requires, our author observes that it ought to be very perspicuous; that all unusual, swoln, or high-sounding words should be avoided, especially all words that are merely poetical, or merely philosophical; that nothing mean or groveling, no low or vulgar phrases, ought on any account to be admitted; that a lively and animated style is extremely suited to the subject; that the earnestness which a preacher ought to feel, and the grandeur and importance of his subjects, justify, and often require, warm and glowing expressions; that he not only may employ metaphors and comparisons, but, on proper occasions, may apostrophize the saint or the sinner; may personify inanimate objects, break out into bold exclamations, and in general has the command of the most passionate figures of speech.

He further observes on this subject, that no affected smartness and quaintness of expression, no points or conceits should appear in a sermon, because they derogate much from the dignity of the pulpit, and give to a preacher that air of foppishness which he ought, above all things, to shun; that a strong expressive style, rather than a sparkling one, should be studied; that a preacher ought never to have what may be called a favourite expression because it shews affectation, and becomes disgusting; that no expression which is remarkable for its lustre

lustre or beauty ought to occur twice in the same discourse, as the repetition of it betrays a fondness to shine, and, at the same time, carries the appearance of a barren invention.

What our author says concerning the French and English preachers will, no doubt, appear exceptionable to many of our readers; but when reasonable allowances are made for honest prejudices, we cannot but think that every competent and impartial judge will see the truth and justice of his observations.

The following cautions well deserve the serious attention of those who are designed for the church:

“ Though the writings of the English divines are very proper to be read by such as are designed for the church, I must caution them against making too much use of them, or transcribing large passages from them into the sermons they compose. Such as once indulge themselves in this practice will never have any fund of their own. Infinitely better it is, to venture into the public with thoughts and expressions which have occurred to themselves, though of inferior beauty, than to disfigure their compositions, by borrowed and ill-sorted ornaments, which, to a judicious eye, will be always in hazard of discovering their own poverty. When a preacher sits down to write on any subject, never let him begin with seeking to consult all who have written on the same text or subject. This, if he consult many, will throw perplexity and confusion into his ideas; and, if he consults only one, will often warp him insensibly into his method, whether it be right or not. But let him begin with pondering the subject in his own

thoughts; let him endeavour to fetch materials from within; to collect and arrange his ideas; and form some sort of plan to himself; which it is always proper to put down in writing. Then, and not till then, he may enquire how others have treated the same subject. By this means, the method and the leading thoughts in the sermon are likely to be his own. These thoughts he may improve, by comparing them with the tract of sentiment which others have pursued; some of their sense he may, without blame, incorporate into his composition; retaining always his own words and style. This is fair assistance: all beyond is plagiarism.

“ On the whole, never let the capital principle, with which we set out at first, be forgotten, to keep close in view the great end for which a preacher mounts the pulpit; even to infuse good dispositions into his hearers, to persuade them to serve God, and to become better men. Let this always dwell on his mind when he is composing, and it will diffuse through his compositions that spirit which will render them at once esteemed and useful. The most useful preacher is always the best, and will not fail of being esteemed so. Embellish truth only with a view to gain it the more full and free admission into your hearer's minds, and your ornaments will, in that case, be simple, masculine, natural. The best applause by far which a preacher can receive arises from the serious and deep impressions which his discourse leaves on those who hear it. The finest encomium, perhaps, ever bestowed on a preacher was given by Louis XIV. to the eloquent Bishop of Clermont, Father Massillon, whom I before mentioned with so much praise. After hearing him preach at Versailles, he said to him, “ Father, I have heard many great orators in this chapel; I have been highly pleased with them; but for you, whenever I hear you, I go away displeased with myself, for I see more of my own character.”

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. LXII. *The Children's Friend.* Translated from the French of M. Berquin. Vol. I. II. and III. One Shilling each. Cadell and Elmsley.

IN our Literary Review for last October we gave a full account of the plan of these charming and instructive little volumes, accompanied with a translation of the Prospectus. M. Berquin, the ingenious author, as we hinted in our former article, has begun to publish his book in English, for the sake of those little readers who have not made a sufficient progress in the French language to understand the stories without a translation.

For the design of this work we must beg our readers to consult the account which we have already mentioned. In order to enable them to judge of the execution, we shall subjoin the following extracts:

A N D R E W.

“ A poor labourer, named Bennet, had six young children, whom he found great difficulty in maintaining; but whom he had nevertheless supported by his industry, till there came so bad a season, that the price of corn was raised, and bread was sold dearer than ever. The good man worked day and night; yet, in spite of his utmost diligence, he could not earn money enough to buy even the worst and cheapest food for so many poor hungry children. He was soon, therefore, reduced to the utmost misery. One day he called about him all his family, and, with tears in his eyes, said to them: ‘ My sweet little ones, every thing is grown

so dear, that with all my working I cannot get enough for your subsistence: this morsel of bread that I now shew you costs me all the money that I can earn in the whole day. You must content yourselves, therefore, to share with me the little I am able to get: and though it will not be enough to satisfy you, it will serve to prevent your dying quite starved." The poor man could say no more; he raised up his eyes to heaven, and sobbed bitterly. His children all cried too; and every one said to himself: "O good God! come to our help, poor little miserable things that we are! help too our poor father, and leave us not to die for hunger!"

"Bennet then divided his loaf into seven equal parts; he kept a share for himself, and gave the rest among his children. One of them, however, whose name was Andrew, refused his portion, saying, 'I am ill, father, and I can take nothing; so pray eat my share yourself, or else part it among the others.'—"My poor dearchild, what is it ails you?" cried Bennet, taking him in his arms.—"I am ill (answered Andrew) very ill, father; I will go and lie down." Bennet immediately carried him to bed; and early the next morning, in the greatest distress, he went to a physician, and conjured him to have the charity to come and see his sick son, and direct what should be done for him.

"The physician, who was a very humane man, consented to accompany Bennet home, though certain he should never be paid for his visits. He went to little Andrew's bed-side, took his hand, and felt his pulse; but could discover no symptom of any disorder. He found him, however, extremely weak, and said he would give orders for some medicine that would strengthen him. 'No, don't order me any thing, Sir, cried Andrew, for I must not take it, be it what it will.'

The PHYSICIAN.

"You must not take it! and pray why not?"

ANDREW.

"Don't ask me, Sir, for I cannot tell you the reason."

The PHYSICIAN.

"And who should hinder you, child? You seem to me a very obstinate little boy."

ANDREW.

"No, indeed, Sir, it is not out of obstinacy, if you'll believe me; but only I can't tell you why."

The PHYSICIAN.

"Well, just as you please; I shall not force you: but I shall ask your father; and he, I presume, will speak to be better understood."

ANDREW.

"Oh! no, pray, Sir, don't let my father hear any thing about it."

The PHYSICIAN.

"You are a most perverse and incomprehensible boy; and I shall most undoubtedly apply to your father, if you will not explain yourself."

ANDREW.

"Oh! no, no, Sir, for God's sake don't do that! I would rather tell you every thing! But first, pray send my brothers and sisters out of the room."

"The physician then bid all the children go; and the little Andrew said, 'Oh, Sir! in these hard times, my father can but just get enough to buy a coarse brown loaf; and he shares it among us all; and every one can have but a little morsel; and for all that he hardly keeps any for himself. But it makes me very sorrowful to see my poor little brothers, and my poor little sisters, all so hungry. And I am the eldest, and I am stronger than they are; so I had rather go without myself, than eat any of it from them. And this is the reason I made believe I was ill: but pray, Sir, don't tell my father, for it will only fret him.'

"The physician, wiping his eyes, said, 'But you too, my good boy, are you not hungry yourself?'

ANDREW.

"O yes, indeed, I am very hungry too; only that does not vex me so badly as seeing them so."

The PHYSICIAN.

"But you must soon die yourself, if you will take no nourishment."

ANDREW.

"I know it very well, Sir, but I shall die with a very good heart; for my

my father will have one mouth less to fill: and when I go to God Almighty, I shall beg him very hard to give my poor little brothers and sisters something to eat."

"The worthy physician felt the utmost tenderness and admiration as he listened to the sentiments of this generous child. He took him in his arms, pressed him to his bosom, and said to him, 'No, my excellent little lad, thou shalt not die; God, the father of us all, will take care of thee, and of all thy family. Give thanks to him, that he has sent me to your assistance: I shall return to you presently.'

"He then hastened to his own house, and loading one of his servants with all sorts of provisions, he bid him attend him back to Andrew and his half-starved little brothers and sisters. He made them all sit down at a table, and desired them to eat till every one was fully satisfied. It was a scene of true delight to this good physician, to witness the happiness of these innocent creatures; and when he went away, he charged Andrew to suffer no further uneasiness, promising to supply them himself with all necessaries.

"He faithfully kept his word, sending them every day food in great plenty: and many other good and charitable persons, to whom he told this adventure, imitated his benevolence. Some gave them provisions, others money, and others linen and clothes; so that, in a very short time, they had even more of every thing than they required.

"No sooner was Bennet's landlord, who was a nobleman of extensive fortune and interest, informed of what the courageous little Andrew had suffered for the sake of his father, and his brothers and sisters, than, struck with ad-

miration at such generosity and fortitude, he sent for the poor man, and said to him, 'You have a most wonderful son; and I will myself, also, be a father to him. I will settle you upon my own estate; and the rest of your children shall be educated to whatever trade they themselves choose, and at my expence: and if they improve as they ought, I will take care to have them all provided for.'

"Bennet returned home almost wild with joy; and, throwing himself upon his knees, gave thanks to heaven, for having blest him with so excellent a child."

C A R O L I N E.

"MRS. P—, a lady as much distinguished for elegance of manners, and quickness of parts, as for the delicacy of her sentiments, and the dignity of her character, one day gently reproved Priscilla, her eldest daughter, for some little giddiness, which, though proper for correction, was yet very pardonable at her early age. Priscilla, touched by the mildness of her mother's reproaches, burst into a flood of tears, from repentance and tenderness. Caroline, at that time but three years old, no sooner saw her sister weeping, than climbing up by the back of her chair, in order to reach her, she took with one hand her pocket handkerchief, and softly wiped her eyes, while with the other she slipped a sugar-plum into her mouth; which, with the simplicity of childish generosity, she took from her own. How tender a subject this, if in the hands of some good painter*!"

We shall give extracts from the remaining volumes of the Children's Friend, in the future numbers of this miscellany.

ART. LXIII. *Hints for a Reform, particularly in the Gambling Clubs.* By a Member of Parliament. 8vo. Baldwin.

REFORMATION was never so loudly called for, or so much wanted, perhaps, as in the present age of luxury and corruption. A reform in parliament is in every person's mouth, but whether it proceeds from the heart we cannot pretend to determine.

It is rather contrary to our plan to insert any account of pamphlets in our Literary Review, but there is so much good sense and philanthropy apparent in these HINTS, that we think we shall confer a favour on our readers by bringing them forward to their notice.

The

* This subject has been beautifully sketched out, by Mr. Burney, in the Exhibition, No. 328. See also page 387 of this number.

The author informs us that he has frequently intended to deliver the sentiments contained in these pages from his seat in the House of Commons, but was deterred, by knowing that personality was almost the only topic that could engage attention. He next denies that the people of England, in general, wish for a reform in the constitution, but says that the proper subject for reformation is GAMING, and proposes that an association should be formed of the virtuous, the honourable, and the powerful, in order to stop the progress of this detestable and ruinous vice. He then offers to devote his time and service in such a cause, and thus proceeds:

"If such a society can be formed, the first measure which they should adopt must be to lay the ax to the root of GAMBLING! To this dreadful vice must the loss of America be ascribed! To this dreadful vice must every misfortune which has lately fallen on this country be attributed!

"Does any man contradict this assertion? Has he been the painful observer of the progress of gaming for the last twenty years? If he has, he must assent. If not, let him remember, that a member of parliament here pledges himself, that if this vice is not stopped in its present mad career, before another twenty years are elapsed this country must undergo a total revolution.

"These are bold words, it may be said, but they are true. If gambling still continues its progress, mark the consequence. It will spread its devastations more rapidly than pestilence or famine, and every stride will be equally fatal. Great and powerful families will be driven to desperation, by the melancholy effects of play, and if some speedy and active measures are not speedily taken to reform this widely spreading evil, those who disapprove of gaming will suffer with those who have lost their all by it; for the guilty and the innocent, the poor and the wealthy, will most probably be plunged into one common ruin.

"The picture is dreadful. It is, indeed, big with horror. But how may this scene of confusion be prevented? The reply is ready.

"When the association is once begun, its members cannot but be numerous. An OBLIGATION must be drawn up, by which they must all bind themselves in the most solemn manner, and under very great penalties, to play only to a certain extent. Nor is this all. They must engage to exert their influence, as far as it extends, to deter others from GAMING. They must petition the King not to employ any person whatever who belongs to a GAMBLING CLUB, or at least who has not signed the obligation.

"About thirty years ago, there was but one club in the metropolis. It was well regulated and respectable. There were few of the mem-

bers who betted high. Such stakes at present would be reckoned low indeed. There were then assemblies once a week in most of the great houses. An agreeable society met at seven o'clock, they played for crowns or half crowns, and reached their own houses about eleven.

"There was but one lady who gamed deeply, and she was viewed in the light of a phenomenon. Were she now to be asked her real opinion of those friends who were her former play-fellows, there can be no doubt but that they rank very low in her esteem. Let her ask her own heart, if she does not wish that at her first setting out in life her passion for gambling had been restrained.

"In the present era of vice and dissipation, how many females attend the card tables? What is the consequence? The effects of it are too clearly to be traced in the frequent divorces which have lately disgraced our country, and they are but too visible in the shameful conduct of many ladies of fashion, since GAMBLING became their chief amusement.

"There is now no society. The routes begin at midnight. They are painful and troublesome to the lady who receives the company, and they are absolutely a nuisance to those who are honoured with a card of invitation. It is vain to attempt conversation. All is croud and confusion. The social pleasures are entirely banished, and those who have any relish for them, or who are fond of early hours, are necessarily banished.

"Such are the companies of modern times, and modern people of fashion. Those who are not invited fly to the GAMING CLUBS,

"To kill their idle hours, and cure *Ennui*!"

"These nocturnal meetings, as well as these baneful clubs, it must be the business of THE ASSOCIATION OF REFORM to restrain under proper regulations, or totally to annihilate. His Majesty would generously and graciously support their endeavours, by his countenance and protection. His own children, indeed, are as likely to suffer from these gambling societies as the offspring of a subject!

"Ministers could not oppose these plans, and the members of opposition would not refuse their assistance. It must not be forgotten, that when these detestable CLUBS have ruined any of their members, they will not support him in his poverty, and distress. There is no asylum for the lost and indigent GAMBLER. If he be a man of mean abilities he must starve, or perish by the pistol. If he possesses powers of language and oratory, he must bully the minister for a place, or become a mortgage on patriotism and opposition!

"In his plans he will find a very powerful support, and before many years are elapsed the GAMBLING CLUBS will become *King, Lords, and Commons*. They will make laws, and decide by their *Magna Charta*. If their schemes should fail, and they are not provided for, we may expect to see a gang of *their Majesties* in the streets, or on the highways, who will prove equally dangerous with the vagabonds who at present threaten our persons and pockets.

"To

"To give an account of the present incumbered situation of many families, whose property was once large and ample, would fill a volume. Whence spring the difficulties which every succeeding day increases? From the GAMBLING CLUBS! Why are they continually hunted by their creditors? The reply is, THE GAMBLING CLUBS! Why are they obliged continually to rack their invention, in order to save appearances? The answer still is, THE GAMBLING CLUBS!

"The father frequently ruins his children; and sons, and even grandsons, long before the succession opens to them, are involved so deeply, that during their future lives their circumstances are rendered narrow; and they have rank, or family honours, without being able to support them.

"How many infamous villains have amassed immense estates, by taking advantage of unfortunate young men, who have been first seduced, and then ruined, by THE GAMBLING CLUBS?

"The ASSOCIATION, therefore, should bind themselves to prosecute every person who has taken any illegal advantage of minors, or others. It is well known, that the old members of these gaming societies exert every nerve to enlist young men of fortune; and if we take a view of the principal estates in this island, we shall find many infamous *Christian* brokers, who are now living luxuriously, and in splendour, on the wrecks of such unhappy victims.

"After THE ASSOCIATION OF REFORM has taken proper measures, and made regulations for reclaiming those who are come of age, and has endeavoured to protect minors, the next step should be to promote a strict discipline in all schools, and in our universities, in order to prevent the rising generation from acquiring the fashionable accomplishment of gambling.

"This pamphlet contains only HINTS. The proper steps for promoting the desirable reform must be left to the superior abilities of the ASSOCIATION, if we are ever to have the happiness of seeing one formed. But of the modern modes of education a few words more may, perhaps, be of service.

"At present, when a boy has learned a little, from his father's example, he is sent to school, to be initiated. In the course of a few years he acquires a profound knowledge of the science of gambling, and before he leaves the university, he is perfectly fitted for a member of THE GAMBLING CLUBS, into which he is elected, before he takes his seat in either House of parliament. There is no necessity for his being of age, as the sooner he is ballotted for the more advantageous his admission will prove to the old members.

"Scarcely is the hopeful youth enrolled among these *honourable* associates, than he is introduced to Jews, to annuity brokers, and to the long train of money-lenders. They take care to answer his pecuniary calls, and the greater part of the night and morning is consumed at the CLUB. To his creditors and tradesmen, instead of paying his bills, he offers a bond or annuity. He rises just time enough

to ride to Kensington-gardens; returns to dress, dines late, and then attends the party of gamblers, as he had done the night before, without he allows himself to be detained for a few moments by the newspaper, or some political publication.

"Such do we find the present fashionable style of life, from his grace to the ensign in the guards. Will this mode of education rear up heroes, to lead forth our armies, or to conduct our fleets to victory? Will this mode of education render them bulwarks of the empire in the senate? Review the conduct of your generals abroad, and of your statesmen at home, during the late unfortunate war, and these questions are answered.

"It has been already observed, that the King, his ministers, and the opposition will sanctify THE ASSOCIATION OF REFORM, by their patronage and protection. The people will likewise support their measures, so that they need not be alarmed with the terrors of unpopularity. At present, tradesmen must themselves be gamblers before they give credit to a member of these CLUBS, but if a reform succeeds, they will be placed in a state of security. At present, they must make regular families pay an enormous price for their goods, to enable them to run the risk of never receiving a single shilling from their gambling customers.

"To conclude. The author of these sheets is sensible that he may render himself an object of contempt, and, perhaps, ridicule, to the members of THE GAMBLING CLUBS. But while his conscience vouches for the integrity of his design, he cannot pay any great deference to their opinion. Even these very persons may be rescued from ruin, by his proposed association. Their friends, their companions, and their relations may likewise be saved from destruction.

"When they relinquish the gaming table, he must feel the most heartfelt pleasure at beholding them in such situations as they may claim from their rank and abilities. They will then be able to live in town with splendour and magnificence. In the country, they will have time to examine their own affairs, and not trust themselves to the mercy of their stewards. They will be able to encourage the industry of their tenants, and improve their estates. They will then gain the affections of the poor, and the respect of the wealthy, while their characters will rank high in the estimation of mankind, and they will enjoy the heartfelt satisfaction which attends those who live according to the dictates of reason, and unite prudence with hospitality, in the economy of their households."

We heartily join with the author of this pamphlet, in wishing that some such method may be taken to check the dreadful consequences which must attend the progress of gaming, and should be happy to see him in the chair, as president of the ASSOCIATION OF REFORM.

SCOTCH ELECTIONS.

DURING the late elections in Scotland, several disputes have arisen with respect to the *fictitious* voters, as they are called, in that country. Many of them have been threatened with prosecution, for taking the oath, which is usually administered at elections, and in all probability the rights of these voters will be made a subject of discussion before the new parliament.

The following paper has been communicated to us, and seems so rational, that we insert it with pleasure, and as we are of *no* party, if any paper of equal merit appears on the opposite side of the question, we shall certainly lay it before our readers.

CONSIDERATIONS ON FREEHOLD ESTATES IN SCOTLAND.

THAT the election laws of this part of the united kingdom have put its parliamentary representation upon a very absurd and unequal footing is a proposition that no impartial person can dispute.—A great clamour has been raised, of late, against votes on liferents and wadsets of superiority.—The abuse, however, does not lie there, but in this, that the number of electors has been by far too much reduced; from which it follows, that the striking off the votes just now mentioned would, instead of diminishing, increase the evil.

In a letter to the freeholders of a certain shire, lately published in the newspapers, a knight-errant, in the way of reformation, has put himself in a great passion. Why? Because the number of freeholders upon the roll there amounts to no less than fifty-seven; and he declares he will exert himself to the utmost, bring criminal prosecution, and move heaven and earth—For what purpose? In order to bring them down to twenty-eight; a very competent number for a whole county. At the same time, it may be its proportion on a comparison with others; for, in every one of them, the number of electors is shamefully and scandalously small.

The law of this country has all along, before as well as since the Union, recognised wadsets and liferents of superiority, as estates entitling to a qualification.—Many, however, have been of opinion, that real property only should give that privilege.—But, if so, it is clear, that a less proportion of valuation should confer a right of voting; because, otherwise, the alteration would do harm, not good.

This, accordingly, was the plan of those who, some time ago, had a real reformation in view. They proposed to strike off the votes on liferents and wadsets of superiority, but, at the same time, to make 200l. or 100l. of valued rent sufficient for a qualification. These gentlemen, it is plain, meant well, and deserve applause. But those who would continue the limitation of the law, as to the qualification, and do nothing more than put an end to votes on liferents and wadsets of superiority, do not mean well, and must act from political or interested motives; for, the only consequence of such alteration would be, to occasion much loss and hardship to the great proprietors, who have been at an immense expence in constituting and supporting such votes.

It would not be attended with the least benefit to the country in general.

A few individuals, no doubt, who call themselves real freeholders, would profit much by it. Having got upon the roll by the injustice and absurdity of the law, it is their interest to keep off as many as they can; and it cannot be doubted, that each of them, instead of twenty-eight, would be very glad to reduce the freeholders of his county to half a dozen, *proviso* that he were of the number; and he would be best pleased of all, if the election of his county were to be made as that of Orkney once was, by a single freeholder, if he himself could play the solitaire.

The law of this country, it has been already observed, has all along recognized liferents and wadsets of superiority, as estates entitling to vote; and it should seem, that the ideas of the legislature continue the same to this day, as the alteration above-mentioned, though several times attempted, has hitherto failed of success.—The few, however, who call themselves real freeholders, have bethought themselves of an indirect method to annihilate the votes above-mentioned, which they affect to call nominal and fictitious: they pretend, *now*, to have discovered, that no such voter can take the oath prescribed by the statute, without committing the crime of perjury. It must strike every person at first sight, that this discovery comes rather late; for it is admitted, that, for twenty years and more, such votes have been common, and have been held, and the oath taken by persons of the purest character and unquestionable honour, and of all professions, by lawyers, judges, physicians, officers of the army, and ministers of the gospel. All these gentlemen, according to some late publications, have repeatedly committed the crime of perjury, and are liable to be tried, and punished accordingly. It is surely astonishing, that a multitude of gentlemen, so worthy, and so intelligent, should have ever fallen into such an offence, and still more that they should have persisted in it for a long tract of years. It is not pretended that they had any other inducement than a desire to serve a friend: but surely, in these selfish times, that was no adequate consideration for incurring so much guilt, and running such a hazard. No answer has hitherto been made to the above-mentioned publications; probably, because it was thought they did not merit any. But, as they

they were undoubtedly intended as hughbears; and, as strong words and violent threats may have the effect of startling and alarming some persons who have not thought much upon the subject, it will not, it is imagined, be thought improper or disagreeable to submit some observations that have occurred upon the question.

Nothing can be clearer, as already said, than that the law of Scotland has always recognized liferent and wadset estates as freeholds, if they are truly held according to their appearance; but if they are not truly what they appear upon the face of the titles to be, they are disregarded as nominal and fictitious, and the matter is brought immediately to the test, by the claimant's taking or refusing the oath prescribed for ascertaining their reality. The law never could mean to impose an oath to determine the merits of a qualification that would have made the claimant's conscience the judge of his title, and consequently must have been a very vague and uncertain mode of ascertaining freeholds. The law has done this itself very explicitly and pointedly. It has declared to be titles of freehold, not only absolute properties, but liferent or wadset estates of property or superiority. Any person holding such estate is intitled to claim a vote as a *consequence* of that title.

If this estate, however, is held either in trust, or defeasible by any latent deed, the law declares it to be insufficient for a qualification, and makes it competent to prove the objection by the tender of an oath. If that be refused, the law presumes, justly, that the titles are not in reality what they appear to be; and they are, therefore, rejected. This is the true legal criterion for determining the sufficiency of a freehold as to this matter. If the titles are really and truly what they appear to be, whether properly liferents or wadsets, and labour under no objection that does not appear from the face of them, the law has not left it to the voter's oath to prove that they are legal freeholds; it has itself declared expressly all titles in that predicament to be so: it is only to prove the reality, and that nothing hidden is stipulated contrary to the tenor of the titles, that the oath may be tendered.

If, therefore, a liferenter or wadsetter, claiming a freehold upon a fair qualification, unclogged with any back-bond or secret condition, be required to take the oath, it seems to follow, that he is in perfect safety to swear that his title is not nominal and fictitious, but really and truly what he sets it forth to be.

If the claimant's titles are truly what he asserts them to be, the motive to, or inductive cause of acquiring, is of no consequence; that makes no part of his title, nor is in any respect essential to it. Very probably the chief or only

motive was to establish a freehold qualification. But what then? A person who holds property, and purchases the superiority for the purpose of obtaining a qualification, certainly cannot be said to be a nominal and fictitious freeholder, when he has the most substantial right possible in his person, viz. both property and superiority. The oath, indeed, is not so very accurately worded, but that it has been exposed to criticism; and some have been so extravagant as to maintain, that even such person could not safely take the oath. But this is perfectly absurd, and the legislature cannot be supposed to have had such a meaning, as is very well explained by Mr. Wight, in his *Treatise on the Laws of Election*, p. 240. If so, the motive is evidently out of the question; it is not the motive, but the nature of the title that the law regards.

Agreeably to these principles, the House of Lords corrected a train of decisions pronounced by the Court of Session, upon a different idea. That court, a good many years ago, disregarding not only the appearance of the titles, but the evidence of their reality from the oath having been taken, investigated the motives of acquiring; and finding it fairly acknowledged in several instances by the claimants, that the titles had been acquired in order to give a right to vote, they rejected them. But the House of Lords disapproved of the principle, and reversed the judgements. They would not suffer that court to pass as an inquest upon a claimant's title, the law having clearly defined, itself, what a sufficient one is.

With regard to the threats of a criminal prosecution, that is a mere *brutum fulmen*. The gentleman above-mentioned, in his printed letter, says, "If any of you shall be hardy enough to do so (i. e. take the oath) I am next to take the liberty to do what I can to bring you before a jury of your countrymen:" from which it is very plain, that he has been advised, that neither he, nor any other freeholder, has a title to bring such prosecution; and, with all his boldness, he has not been hardy enough to assert, or even hint, that any King's advocate, who may have a title, would think of such a step. If any such prosecutions are to be brought, common justice will require from that gentleman, or from whoever else shall be the prosecutor, that they be not confined to those who shall take the oath at the next election, but extended to all those who have taken the oath at former elections; and if that be done, it will be a fortunate æra for the Court of Justiciary. The gift of prophecy, however, is not necessary to foretell that no such prosecution will be ever brought against any person whatever: or, if it be, that the prosecutor will meet with the chastisement and stigma he deserves.

STATE PAPERS.

Abstract of the BILL to provide a temporary Reception for Criminals under Sentence of Death, and respited during his Majesty's Pleasure, or under Sentence or Order of Transportation, and also for sick Prisoners.

IT recites, that difficulties have arisen, which have delayed the carrying into execution sentences and orders of transportation of convicts to places beyond the seas; and that it may be some time before the said difficulties can be obviated.

That

That from the unusual great number of prisoners now under sentence of death, and respited during his Majesty's pleasure, or under sentence or order of transportation, within the jails of England and Wales, there is such a want of convenient and sufficient room in many of such jails, that very dangerous consequences are to be apprehended, unless some immediate provision is made for removing such criminals to some place of confinement.

It therefore enacts, that from the passing this act his Majesty may, from time to time, during the continuance of the act, in writing notified by the secretary of state, or from three justices of any county in which the jail is erected, direct the removal of criminals on board any vessel, under the management of an overseer.

There are clauses directing sheriffs and jailers how to act in removals of prisoners—Overseers to have the same charge over criminals as jailers,

and to be answerable for escapes—the overseer to find food and cloathing, and to keep them to labour, in conformity to persons in the houses of correction—the time of their confinement to be reckoned as a part of a satisfaction for his or her transportation—criminals refusing to perform the labour set them to receive moderate corporal punishment, as in houses of correction—all rescues to be punished in the same manner as rescues of criminals from jails, or from the custody of the sheriff—overseers to make returns of criminals in their custody, specifying deaths and escapes—directing the expences of removals, and by whom to be defrayed—expences to be laid annually before the House of Commons, and to be allowed out of the supplies to be granted to his Majesty.—There are other necessary clauses, &c. declaring the act to be a public act.

The humble ADDRESS of the Right Hon. the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, presented to his Majesty May 20th, 1784:

"Most gracious Sovereign,

Die Mercurii, 19 Maii, 1784.

"WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

"Deeply sensible of the blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's government, we desire to express our satisfaction and gratitude, that, in the exercise of the powers vested in you by the constitution, your Majesty has been graciously pleased to recur to the sense of your people, at a conjuncture when the situation of public affairs called aloud for that exertion.

"Animated with the truest sentiments of loyalty to your Majesty's person and government, of attachment to our excellent constitution, and of regard for the public welfare, your Majesty may safely rely, that we will enter upon the important objects of public business, which call for our attention, with temper and assiduity, and that we will prosecute them with all the dispatch of which their nature will admit.

"In pursuit of those objects which your Majesty has been pleased to recommend to our consideration, we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we will apply ourselves with industry to stopping the alarming progress of frauds in the revenue; and that we shall be ready to co-operate with the other branches of the legislature, in framing such further commercial regulations as the present circumstances may require.

"Convinced, as we are, how materially the situation of the affairs of the East-India company is connected with the general interests of the country, and that it forms a most important subject of deliberation, your Majesty may depend, that in applying our utmost attention to provide for the good government of our possessions in India, we shall well and anxiously weigh the effect which the measures we may adopt may have upon the invaluable constitution of Great-Britain.

"We beg leave humbly to assure your Majesty, that we have the fullest conviction of your Majesty's paternal care and affection for your people, and that the prosperity of your subjects is the first object of your royal attention; which could not be more fully manifested than in the resolution your Majesty has taken to support and maintain, in their just balance, the rights and privileges of every branch of the legislature.

His MAJESTY's most gracious ANSWER:

"My Lords,

"I thank you for this very loyal and dutiful address. I receive with great satisfaction every fresh mark of your attachment to me, and your zeal for the public interests, and for the preservation of our most excellent constitution."

Motion for an Address to his Majesty's speech, as moved for on Monday May the 21th, in the House of Commons.

"THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the thanks of this House for his most gracious speech from the throne.

"To assure his Majesty, that we are animated with those sentiments of loyalty, and that inviolable attachment to our excellent constitution, which are, we trust, inseparably united in the hearts of his faithful subjects.

"That we acknowledge with the warmest gratitude and satisfaction his Majesty's wisdom and goodness, in recurring at so important a moment to the sense of his people; and that we trust so reasonable an exercise of the power entrusted to his Majesty by the constitution will not fail to be attended by the most beneficial and happy effects.

"To assure his Majesty that his faithful Commons will be ready to take proper measures for the

1784.

the application of the sums voted in the last parliament, and to grant such further supplies as may appear to be necessary; having the fullest confidence, that all his Majesty's subjects will, from loyalty to his Majesty, and zeal for the interests of the country, be ready to support those heavy burthens, which, in consequence of a hearty and expensive war, are now unavoidable, and will be sensible of the necessity of effectually providing for the maintenance of the national faith and the public credit, so essential to the power and prosperity of the state.

"To assure his Majesty, that we shall apply our utmost attention to the means of preventing the increasing frauds in the revenue; that we shall also take into our most serious consideration such commercial regulations as the present situation may immediately require.

"That in our deliberations on the affairs of the East-India company, so deeply connected with the general interests of our country, we shall be truly anxious to provide for the good government of our possessions in that part of the world: that we shall be careful never to lose sight of the effects which any measure to be adopted for that purpose may have on our excellent constitution, and our dearest interests at home.

"That we are deeply penetrated with the gracious and parental expressions of his Majesty's affection and goodness to his people, and have the most dutiful reliance on his Majesty's royal attention to every object of national concern, and to the true principles of our free constitution, which can only be secured by maintaining in their just balance the rights and privileges of every branch of the legislature."

The manner of choosing a Speaker at the meeting of the new parliament, May the 18th, 1784.

HIS Majesty being seated on the throne, adorned with his crown and regal ornaments, and attended by his officers of state (the Lords being in their robes) commanded the gentleman usher of the black rod to let the Commons know, it is his Majesty's pleasure that they attend him immediately in this House: who being come, the Lord Chancellor, having received directions, said,

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"His Majesty has been pleased to command me to acquaint you, that he will defer declaring the causes of calling this parliament, till there shall be a Speaker of the House of Commons. And, therefore, it is his Majesty's pleasure that you, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, do immediately repair to the place where the Commons usually sit, and there choose a fit person to be your Speaker; and that you present such person, who shall be so chosen, to his Majesty here, for his royal approbation, tomorrow, at two o'clock."

His Majesty was then pleased to retire, and the Commons withdrew. Being returned to their own House, Mr. Cornwall, the late speaker, was proposed by the Marquis of Graham on the part of administration. He was chosen unanimously, and after begging to decline the high honour intended him, on account of his want of abilities, conformably to ancient usage, he was conducted to the chair by the Marquis of Graham and Sir George Howard, where he again made a disqualifying speech, and the House adjourned.

May 19. His Majesty having again come down to the House of Peers, and being seated on the throne, Sir Francis Molineux went to the House of Commons, and returned with the re-elected Speaker and a number of members, who being come to the bar, Mr. Cornwall addressed the throne to the following purport:

"In consequence of a command from his Majesty, which the Commons have received, to elect a Speaker, I am to inform his Majesty, that they have proceeded to the exercise of that ancient and undoubted right. I have the honour to be the object of their choice. On this occasion, however, I cannot refrain from ex-

pressing my apprehensions, that my abilities are by no means adequate to the discharge of that weighty and important trust which they have reposed in me. Under these circumstances, I must entreat his Majesty, that he would give his command to his Commons to proceed to another election."

The Lord Chancellor then addressed the Speaker as follows:

"I have received the commands of his Majesty, to express the confidence which he has in your experience, abilities, and integrity, and to notify his Majesty's approbation and command, that you should take upon you the high and important trust which his faithful Commons have placed in you."

The Speaker then replied,

"The best way I can take to return his Majesty my acknowledgements for the high honour he has done me, by his approbation and confidence, is by the most serious and strenuous exertions of such abilities as I possess, and the truest integrity of heart in the discharge of the high employment with which I am invested. I must entreat for myself every indulgence for my failings, and that the most favourable construction may be put on all my proceedings. I must likewise claim for the House of Commons, over which I am to preside the assurance of the continuance of an exemption from arrest of its members, of a free access to his Majesty's person, and of all other their ancient and undoubted rights."

The Lord Chancellor then said, "However small the need may be of his Majesty's favourable indulgence on account of your abilities, I am ordered to give you his Majesty's assurance of every favourable interpretation of your conduct. I am also authorized to assure you of his Majesty's resolution to preserve all the ancient rights of the House of Commons inviolate, and among others, those of freedom from arrest, of free access to his person, and of a favourable construction on the proceedings of the House."

This ceremony being over, his Majesty declared the reasons of calling the parliament in a most gracious speech.

The Speaker, after his return from the House

of Lords, took the chair, and addressed the House, by observing, that in their name he had, as usual on all such occasions, claimed their privileges. These he stated in a few words: their persons were to be free from all molestation, that on no pretence whatever the duty of parliament might be interrupted. Freedom also of speech, by which the spirit of censure and debate is preserved inviolate. These, with all the other privileges of persons, servants, lands, and goods, he had demanded of the crown as their Speaker; and he assured the House of their being granted in a manner as liberal and extensive as ever was known from any prince of the illustrious house of Brunswick.

He had now only, therefore, to thank the House for their partiality to him, in choosing him to preside among them; and he thought it particularly incumbent on him to express the grati-

tude he felt for the very handsome unanimity with which this important and solemn obligation had been conferred. He trusted he should not be deemed exceeding the line of his duty, by earnestly recommending moderation and decency to the House, especially on all important and interesting debates. The standing orders of the House were well known, and their utility and necessity universally acknowledged: these he did not doubt would be as literally complied with as it was possible in so large an assembly. He would only say for his own part, that he would do all in his power for the preservation of good order and good humour; and that, with all the impartiality he was master of, he would steadily exercise the powers with which the constitution of the House invested him for supporting its credit and reputation.

THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY.

THURSDAY, April 22.

At ten o'clock, the freeholders of Middlesex met at Brentford, for the purpose of electing two members to represent that county in parliament. Mr. Wilkes, Mr. Byng, and Mr. Mainwaring, were nominated by their respective friends; and as a poll was vehemently demanded on all hands, the sheriffs proceeded to business immediately, without any address from either of the candidates. About four o'clock Mr. Sheriff Skinner made a proposal, which was adopted by his colleague, of requesting the candidates to consult with their friends, and determine whether the poll should finally conclude that day, or be renewed the next, as no time was particularly specified by usage for the conclusion of the poll, and it might be midnight before the electors relinquished their attendance. The candidates upon this retired to deliberate upon what measure they should pursue, and after some consultation, it was unanimously agreed, that no opinion could be formed till they knew the strength of each party at that period of the poll. The under sheriff then proceeded to an examination of the books, when the numbers appeared as follows:

Mr. Mainwaring	-	1736
Mr. Wilkes	-	1476
Mr. Byng	-	1455

The candidates then agreed that the books should be kept open till dark, and that the election should commence again at eleven o'clock the next morning, and finally close in the evening; accordingly, at five o'clock on Friday afternoon the poll ended, when the numbers were declared by the sheriff to stand as follows, viz.

For W. Mainwaring, Esq.	-	2117
John Wilkes, Esq.	-	1858
George Byng, Esq.	-	1787

Majority for Mr. Mainwaring	330
Ditto for Mr. Wilkes	71

After which a scrutiny was demanded by Mr. Byng, and his friends, which was allowed by the sheriff, and the county-court thereupon adjourned to Friday next, at six o'clock in the

evening, in the sheriffs' office in Tooke's-court, Currier-street, Chancery-lane, there to proceed on the said scrutiny.

MONDAY, 26.

This morning the scrutineers of Messrs. Sawbridge and Atkinson met the sheriff in the Common-council chamber at Guildhall, and after a long altercation, whether counsel should be allowed on the part of the candidates, which was at length agreed to, at two o'clock they proceeded on the scrutiny.

WEDNESDAY, 28.

The session ended at the Old-Bailey, which began on the 21st. On the Middlesex side, 12 convicts received sentence of death; one was branded in the hand; 22 ordered to be transported; 22 to be whipped, and kept to hard labour in the house of correction; four to be imprisoned in Newgate; ten to be whipped and discharged; and 26 discharged by proclamation. On the London side, 12 convicts received judgement of death; 19 were sentenced to be transported to America; 20 to be whipped and kept to hard labour in the house of correction; four imprisoned in Newgate; nine to be whipped and discharged; and ten delivered on proclamation.

Christopher Atkinson, Esq. who some time since was convicted of perjury, voluntarily surrendered himself in the court of King's-Bench, when Mr. Bearcroft moved an arrest of judgement. The grounds on which he argued that judgement should be stayed were two—One, that at common law the justices of sessions had no jurisdiction in cases of perjury; and that where they have that jurisdiction now, it is given to them by express terms, in statutes made on particular occasions, that have nothing in common with Mr. Atkinson's case; which not being within any of these statutes, was consequently out of the jurisdiction of the justices. [The indictment was found at Hicks's-Hall.] The second ground was, that when by *Certiorari* the indictment was brought into the court of King's-Bench, the names of the jurors who found it ought to have been returned with it, that

that the court might have an opportunity to try whether they were *boni et legales homines*, a point of the utmost consequence to the subject, as, without such a return and trial, a man might be deprived of his liberty, property, or even life, by *oultatus, felons*, or any other description of men, disqualified by law from sitting in judgement on any one. The court took time to consider on the subject, and for the present committed Mr. Atkinson to the custody of the marshal of the King's-Bench.

FRIDAY, 30.

The adjourned court for the county of Middlesex was opened by the sheriffs, at their office in Tooke's-court, Chancery-lane. The candidates, with very few friends, attended. The whole company did not exceed fifty persons.

Certain doctrines were advanced with some degree of authority, that the sheriffs having declared the numbers on the poll, could not recede from that declaration, but must of course, *ex officio*, bound by duty, make the return according to the majority of voters. That no act of parliament whatever pointed out or named the word *Scrutiny*; nor was it necessary, if the sheriffs did their only duty, which was to swear the freeholder. In that case the returning officer was justified in the return of the writ, because every vote had been scrutinized during the poll.

On the other side, it was contended that the sheriffs had granted the scrutiny, and, therefore, were bound to undertake it. But (said the sheriffs) if we have committed one error already, by showing our impartiality, in complying with an illegal requisition, surely, for our own satisfaction, we ought to consult the opinion of some learned men in the law, to guide our future conduct.

This appeared so reasonable, that an adjournment was proposed till Wednesday next, for the very purpose of obtaining that satisfaction, and to regulate the further proceedings of the business, in case a scrutiny was permitted in. This was unwarrantably stiled procrastination, but the sheriffs urged, that they could not enter into the business of a county scrutiny till the 11th of May, as they were engaged in a scrutiny for the city of London, which parliament had authorized.

After some altercation between the parties concerned, the company broke up at nine o'clock. Mr. Wilkes complained of partiality shown by one of the sheriffs, in not sending a copy of the books to him, as soon as to Mr. Byng. This was in some measure obviated, by two of Mr. Byng's friends having applied for them at the office. Mr. Byng declared he had no other object in view, but in justice to the electors to find out the *legal* voters for Middlesex, of whom he was sure of a considerable majority in his favour. Being asked, if, after going through a scrutiny, he meant to appeal to the House of Commons; he said he would answer no interrogatories, nor agree to any propositions that came from his opponents. One of his friends rose, and said it lay not with Mr. Byng to answer questions of that sort; but that he, with some others, had stood forth, and demanded the scrutiny, and should appeal or not, as they thought proper, to the House of Commons.

MONDAY, May 3.

The proceedings on the city scrutiny, which had been continued by regular adjournments, from day to day, finally closed, in the following manner: the sheriffs counsel having delivered his opinion in writing, respecting the vote of a person translated from the drapers to the girdlers company, declaring the same to be good, one of Mr. Atkinson's scrutineers expressed his dissatisfaction at the determination, and went out with the other scrutineers to consider of it. After an absence of two hours (having sent for Mr. Atkinson) they returned, and delivered the following letter to the sheriffs:

"Gentlemen,

"When we strenuously objected, at the commencement of the present scrutiny, to your admitting counsel for one candidate, and thereby imposing a necessity on the other of employing counsel likewise, we foresaw what the gentleman you have called in to your assistance as counsel has repeatedly declared from the bench, and the experience of six days fully confirms, that it is impossible in this mode of proceeding to go through the scrutiny in the time prescribed by law; and consequently, that the obvious intention of the act of parliament in the appointment of scrutineers, and the practice of former sheriffs in not admitting counsel are overturned, and the scrutiny rendered inadequate to the substantial purposes of justice. In six days you have decided upon 33 or 34 votes only, and this and the remaining six days do not afford the least prospect of being more essentially employed. It gives us pain to add, that several of the decisions are such as we cannot acquiesce under, but are determined to bring it before a higher judicature. The decision of this morning, upon the question of non-translation, in particular, appears to us, at one blow, to destroy the foundation of every peculiar right and privilege the city possesses, by overturning the authority of its ancient laws and customs, uniformly until now adhered to; and should that decision stand unreversed, it must be attended with consequences of the most alarming nature to all the franchises which rest upon a similar authority. To continue a proceeding at once troublesome, expensive, inadequate, inconclusive, and dangerous appears very improper: we have, therefore, made it our unanimous request to Mr. Atkinson to permit us, and have his consent, as scrutineers appointed under the authority of an act of parliament for regulating elections in the city of London, to give you this notice, that as far as we lawfully may we decline to proceed any farther before you in the present scrutiny, but will carry the vindication of the rights and franchises of the city to that jurisdiction, which is alone competent to administer complete justice, in the matter of the present election.

"We have the honour to be, &c.

SAMUEL SMITH,
JAMES BOGLE FRENCH,
SAMUEL HANNAY,
JOHN WITHERS,
JOHN MERRY,
WILLIAM STOCK.

Sir Bernard Turner, Knight. } Sheriffs of London.
Thomas Skinner, Esq. }

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, May 4.

The sheriffs, with Mr. Sawbridge, his scrutineers, and counsel, Mr. Brook Watson, and several of the livery, attended in the new council-chamber, when the books were examined, the rejected votes cast up, and the numbers finally adjusted. At twelve the sheriffs, &c. adjourned to the hustings, when Sir Barnard Turner declared the numbers following:

	Number of votes on the poll	Votes declared bad on the scrutiny.	Numbers returned by the sheriffs.
Mr. Watson,	4789	13	4776
Sir W. Lewes,	4554	13	4541
Mr. Newnham,	4479	12	4467
Mr. Sawbridge,	2823	11	2812
Mr. Atkinson,	2816	13	2803
Mr. Smith,	287	1	286
Mr. Pitt,	56	0	0

Upon which the sheriffs declared that the majority of legal votes upon the scrutiny appeared in favour of Brook Watson, Esq. Sir Watkin Lewes, Knt. Nathaniel Newnham, Esq. and John Sawbridge, Esq. The court was then adjourned to Friday next, at the same time and place, when those gentlemen were declared duly elected, and the return signed.

This night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, a fire broke out at Mr. Pope's, oilman, in Wells-street, Oxford-road: it began in the ware-rooms under the shop, and the materials being entirely combustible immediately communicated to the stair-case, and in an instant the house was in flames from top to bottom. Mr. Pope threw his two children out of the two-pair-of-stairs window, which were caught in blankets, and then jumped out himself, and received but little hurt; Mrs. Pope followed, and was shockingly bruised; the servant maid followed her mistress, and fractured her skull in the fall: the family in the first floor, a widow and two children, were obliged to take to the same dreadful means: the mother, after being miserably burnt in throwing out her two children, jumped out herself, and was very much bruised: the maimed objects were immediately sent to the Middlesex Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, 5.

At half after six in the evening the sheriffs, under-sheriffs, Mr. Wilkes, and Mr. Byng, with their respective friends, attended at the office in Tooke's-court, and opened the business of the scrutiny for the county. Sir Barnard Turner stated to the freeholders, that he and his colleague had taken an eminent counsel's opinion respecting their conduct in their future proceedings, and that in consequence of that opinion they had determined to proceed upon the scrutiny. The opinion at the desire of a freeholder was read. It stated the sheriffs authority to grant a scrutiny, together with the mode necessary to be followed in conducting the business.

Mr. Byng declared himself perfectly satisfied with the conduct of the sheriffs, and declared that he would strictly conform to the regulations which they had laid down. Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Mainwaring did not seem to be reconciled to the sheriffs' opinion, and a violent altercation took place, which continued until nine at night,

at which time the sheriffs adjourned until Tuesday next.

THURSDAY, 6.

Christopher Atkinson, Esq. was brought up from the King's-Bench prison into the court of King's-Bench, when the rule obtained by his counsel, to show cause why the judgement should not be arrested, was to have been argued; but, upon the motion of the Attorney-General, it was enlarged till Wednesday next; and another rule was obtained by the attorney for Mr. Atkinson's counsel, to show cause why the record (if deemed imperfect) should not be amended.

TUESDAY, 11.

At eight o'clock in the morning, Mess. Mainwaring, Wilkes, and Byng, with the sheriffs, and several freeholders, attended at the office in Tooke's-court, to proceed on the business of a scrutiny, which was demanded by Mr. Byng. A surveyor having given it as his opinion, that the place of meeting was not sufficiently strong to support so considerable a weight of people as would probably attend on this occasion, it was proposed to adjourn to Guildhall, Westminster. This was opposed by Mr. Wilkes and his friends, and when the adjournment at length took place, he refused to proceed to business, and protested against the whole proceedings of the sheriffs from the beginning. Mr. Darell, his counsel, gave notice that he should object to the whole of the scrutiny next day, under the act of 7th William III.

WEDNESDAY, 12.

The sheriffs met again, pursuant to adjournment, at Guildhall, King-street, Westminster; and after hearing counsel, particularly Mr. Darell, in behalf of Messrs. Wilkes and Mainwaring, who contended that the sheriffs had no right to grant a scrutiny, they adjourned to Friday next.

Mr. Atkinson's business was resumed in the court of King's-Bench. His counsel were, Mr. Bearcroft, Mr. Wood, and Mr. Dallas. Their object was, to show cause why the judgement passed on the defendant should not be arrested. In the prosecution of that object, the chief point which they aimed at establishing was, that no caption of indictment can be amended, except in the term in which it is issued. This led them into a wide field of statutes and quotations, in which much ingenuity and learning were displayed. Mr. Bearcroft seemed to shake the very foundations of the doctrine which the Solicitor-General had laid down before the adjournment of the court on Thursday last. Mr. Atkinson's counsel complained of the severity with which he was treated, and endeavoured to convince the court, that their client's elopement was not owing to any desire in him to fly from justice. Mr. Solicitor-General affirmed, that the defendant had not been subjected to any degree of hard treatment: that he had been obliged to submit to the common course of justice, and nothing more. He was surprised to hear the opposite counsel say that the defendant had fled *because of the misprision of the clerk*, as his counsel did not discover the error for a long time after he had left the country; and in respect to the counsel for the prosecution, they were not acquainted with the circumstance till within

two days of the time when the rule which they were then considering was obtained.—He believed there might have been some hopes of evading the sentence which was passed, through the frequent changes of Attorney and Solicitor-Generals.—At any rate, it was setting a good precedent; as gentlemen, who might, in future, be in the same predicament with the defendant, had nothing to do but go to France, and stay till the witnesses that were against them should die. All the counsel for the crown spoke well. Mr. Lee was very nervous and animated. They made it appear that the authorities which had been quoted to prove that no amendment of caption could be made after the term in which judgement was given, were insufficient and nugatory. There were instances in which misprisions of officers might happen, and in which it would be impossible to amend them during the term in which they happened: one, for example, that should take place on the last day of a term.

THURSDAY, 13.

Was held the anniversary meeting of the sons of the clergy, at which were present the Lord-Mayor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, president; Sir John Skinner, vice-president; the Archbishop of York; the Earl of Exeter; Lord Brownlow, the Bishops of Winchester, Bath and Wells, Rochester, St. Asaph, Salisbury, Worcester, Chester, Lincoln, Bangor, Lichfield and Coventry, and Bristol; Aldermen Lewes, Clarke, Pickett, Boydell, and Bates; Sheriffs Turner and Skinner, Sir George Pococke, Sir Joshua Reynolds, &c. with many of the clergy and gentry. Collection at St. Paul's, on Tuesday

the 11th curt.	175	10	0
Ditto on Thursday the 13th curt.	280	6	4
Ditto at Merchant-Tailors-Hall	548	3	8
	<hr/> £1004 0 0		

FRIDAY, 14.

At a court of common-council held at Guild-hall, before the Lord-Mayor and 16 aldermen, the committee appointed to enquire into the state of the Compters presented a report of their proceedings, which was read, and the court empowered the committee to treat with the Grocers company for the purchase of the vacant ground in Grub-street, for the purpose of rebuilding the compters, or to treat with any other person or persons for the purchase of any ground that they may think most fit for the purpose.

MONDAY, 17.

This afternoon, at three o'clock, the poll finally closed for electing two representatives for the city of Westminster, when, on calling up the books, the numbers appeared,

For Lord Hood	-	6694
Right Hon. C. J. Fox	-	6234
Sir Cecil Wray	-	5998

Majority for Mr. Fox 236

After the numbers were declared, a requisition was delivered to the high-bailiff, as follows:

To Thomas Corbett, Esq. high-bailiff of the city and liberty of Westminster.

I Sir Cecil Wray, Bart. one of the candidates to serve in parliament for the city and liberty of Westminster, and we the underwritten electors of the said city and liberty, do hereby demand of you a scrutiny of the votes taken at the present election of two citizens to serve in parliament for the said city and liberty, as witnesses our hands, this 17th day of May, 1784.

CECIL WRAY.

Mountmorres
R. Butler
J. Meyer
D. Mackenzie
James Croft
Morris Marfaut
John Robertson

Bateman
Francis Atkinson
William Adams
Peter Paul
John Jackson
Rev. John Lloyd

Mr. Fox and his friends insisted that it was the high-bailiff's duty to make a return; that the next day the writ under which he had any power expired, and that, therefore, he could not grant a scrutiny with any prospect of use, or on any probability of his being able even to enter on it, much less to go through it; but the high-bailiff contended that he had a right to comply with the request; and as he had doubts in his own mind which of the parties had the majority of legal votes, he considered it as his duty to enter into a scrutiny, which was in fact only a continuation of the poll. Mr. Morgan and some other lawyers argued the case on the part of Sir Cecil Wray, and wished to go at full length into the business, but Mr. Fox would not enter into any contest. He claimed the return as a matter of right, and when it was refused, he and a number of respectable friends entered a protest against the high-bailiff; and at the same time Lord Robert Spencer, Mr. Hare, and Mr. Stanley entered the following protest:

"We Robert Spencer, commonly called Lord Robert Spencer, James Hare, Esq. and Thomas Stanley, Esq. electors of the city and liberty of Westminster, do hereby solemnly and wholly protest against the scrutiny now demanded and allowed by the high-bailiff to commence after the return of the writ, and against all proceedings to be had and taken by the said high-bailiff in consequence thereof, as illegal and unprecedented, as witnesses our hands, this 17th day of May, 1784.

"ROBERT SPENCER,

"JAMES HARE,

"THOMAS STANLEY."

Witness,

JOHN ROBERT COCKER.

To all subsequent requisitions relating to a scrutiny Mr. Fox objected. His friends then, who were assembled to the amount of many thousands, insisted on chairing him, and he was conducted in one of the grandest, most numerous, and best ordered processions of the kind that we remember, round Covent-Garden, down Russell and Catharine-streets into the Strand, Charing-cross, down Parliament-street, round the end of Great George-street, and back to Charing-cross, Pall-mall, &c. St. James's-street, Piccadilly, Berkley-street, round Berkley-square; back through Berkley-street, and into Devonshire-house court-yard, where the various

rious banners formed in front, while Mr. Fox, alighting from his chair, ascended the steps, and joined his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Lady Duncannon, and a train of other illustrious beauties, who were assembled on the platform, to greet the arrival of their favourite representative. Mr. Fox from thence addressed his friends, in an elegant speech, most cordially thanking them for the high honour they had conferred upon him, and requesting, as their triumph in the cause of freedom and independence had been so highly honourable to him and themselves, it might not be sullied by the smallest marks of tumult or intemperance. The procession thence turned off to Willis's rooms to dinner, and the multitude of spectators that crowded the streets dispersed without committing any riot or disorder. This election, which continued from the 1st of April to the 17th of May, was productive of many riots, and much confusion, in which several persons are supposed to have lost their lives, besides the considerable, who died of the bruises he received in an affray on Monday the 10th. As it was contested with greater obstinacy, and more various success, than any preceding election, we have subjoined the following complete state of the poll for the city and liberties of Westminster, at the general election in 1784.

Days of the Month.	Days of polling.	Total at the close of each day's poll.		
		Hood	Fox	Wray
April 1	First	264	302	238
2	Second	970	941	866
3	Third	951	680	871
5	Fourth	1077	945	1010
6	Fifth	674	545	637
7	Sixth	522	414	495
8	Seventh	359	299	303
9	Eighth	80	75	69
10	Ninth	341	271	299
12	Tenth	246	205	207
13	Eleventh	117	142	97
14	Twelfth	161	186	116
15	Thirteenth	143	143	113
16	Fourteenth	96	82	79
17	Fifteenth	81	75	65
19	Sixteenth	68	65	68
20	Seventeenth	54	73	41
21	Eighteenth	65	76	49
22	Nineteenth	35	51	27
23	Twentieth	52	45	49
24	Twenty-first	51	57	38
26	Twenty-second	52	78	40
27	Twenty-third	39	77	29
28	Twenty-fourth	39	56	36
29	Twenty-fifth	25	38	23
30	Twenty-sixth	16	42	12
May 1	Twenty-seventh	14	29	13
3	Twenty-eighth	12	24	12
4	Twenty-ninth	14	33	11
5	Thirtieth	12	35	5
6	Thirty-first	14	20	11
7	Thirty-second	10	9	8
8	Thirty-third	11	21	9
10	Thirty-fourth	23	15	19
11	Thirty-fifth	5	16	6

12	Thirty-sixth	5	17	6
13	Thirty-seventh	4	12	3
14	Thirty-eighth	3	7	2
15	Thirty-ninth	6	17	5
17	Fortieth	13	16	11
Total		6694	6234	5998

The following is an official copy of the return made by the high-bailiff of Westminster to the sheriff of Middlesex, and by the sheriff to the clerk of the crown.

"Thomas Corbett, bailiff of the liberty of the dean and chapter of the collegiate church of St. Peter, at Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, doth hereby certify unto the sheriff of the said county of Middlesex, that by virtue of a certain precept, dated the 26th day of March last, and on the same day delivered to him the said bailiff, by the said sheriff, for the election of two citizens to serve in the ensuing parliament for the city of Westminster, and by virtue of the writ therein recited (proclamation of the premises in the said precept first mentioned, of the day and place, as in the said precept is directed, first being made) he the said bailiff did proceed to the election of two citizens to serve in the ensuing parliament for the said city of Westminster, on the first day of April now last past, on which day appeared and were put in nomination the three candidates herein after mentioned, and a poll being demanded, he the said bailiff did forthwith proceed to take the said poll, and continued to take the same day by day, during six hours each day, viz. from nine in the forenoon to three in the afternoon, until the day of the date of these presents inclusive, on which day the said poll was finally closed, when the numbers on the said poll for the said several candidates stood as follows, viz.

"For the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Hood, Baronet, Baron Hood of the kingdom of Ireland, 6694

"For the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, — 6234

"For Sir Cecil Wray, Baronet, 5998

"The said bailiff further sets forth, that on the said final close of the poll, a scrutiny was duly demanded in behalf of Sir Cecil Wray; which scrutiny the said bailiff has granted, for the purpose of investigating the legality of the votes more accurately than could be done on the said poll; and the said scrutiny so granted is now pending and undetermined, and by reason of the premises, the said bailiff humbly conceives he cannot make any other return to the said precept, than as herein before is contained, until the said scrutiny shall be determined, which he fully intends to proceed upon with all practicable dispatch.—In witness whereof, he, the said Thomas Corbett, bailiff of the said liberty, hath hereunto set his hand and seal, the 17th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1784.

"THO. CORBETT, Bailiff."

TUESDAY, 18.

His Majesty being seated on the throne, adorned with his crown and regal ornaments, and attended by his officers of state (the Lords being in their robes) commanded the gentleman other of the

the black rod to let the Commons know, it is his Majesty's pleasure that they attend him immediately in this House, who being come, the Lord Chancellor, having received directions, signified to the Commons his Majesty's pleasure that they should repair to the place where the Commons usually sit, and choose a fit person to be their speaker. His Majesty was then pleased to retire, and the Commons withdrew.

WEDNESDAY, 19.

The two Houses of parliament having again met, his Majesty went in state to the House of Peers, and being, in his royal robes, seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, Sir Francis Molineux, Knt. gentleman usher of the black rod, was sent with a message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly presented to his Majesty the Right Honourable Charles Wolfran Cornwall, whom they had chosen to be their Speaker. And the Lord Chancellor having, by the King's command, signified his Majesty's approbation of their choice. His Majesty was then pleased to open the session of parliament by a most gracious speech.

This morning both houses of convocation met in St. Paul's church, at which were present the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Salisbury, Lincoln, Bangor, Bristol, and St. David's, Dr. Calvert, Dean of the Arches, Drs. Wynne, Bever, and Scott, and many of the dignified clergy. The Archbishop came from the Chapter-house in his convocation robes, attended by the Dean of the Arches, the doctors, proctors, and other officers of Doctors-Commons, and was met at the west door of the cathedral by the bishops, preceded by the vergers, choristers, and gentlemen of the choir, and being seated, the Bishop of Bristol read the Litany in Latin; after which an anthem was sung by the gentlemen of the choir. The sermon in Latin was preached by the Rev. Dr. Barford. After the sermon another anthem was sung by the choir; the Archbishop then pronounced the benediction in Latin; after which his grace, followed by the bishops, doctors of law, clergy, and proctors, went to the Chapter-house, where the lower house of convocation soon waited on their lordships, and signified their election of the Rev. Dr. Jackson, dean of Christ-Church, as their prolocutor, and Wednesday se'nnight was appointed for him to be presented in form to the upper house of convocation, in King Henry the Seventh's Chapel, in Westminster-Abbey.

FRIDAY, 21.

Came on before the court of delegates, at Serjeants-Inn-Hall, the final hearing of Mr. Morris's cause, to establish his matrimonial contract with Miss Harford. Dr. Scott recapitulated the heads of the arguments, derived from the laws of nature and nations, which he adduced on last Tuesday se'nnight.—Dr. Wynne replied, and contended that the marriage being contracted in fraud was void *ab origine*. To prove this position, he adverted to Mr. Morris's conduct during the time the young lady was under the care of Mrs. Latouche for education, when that lady found herself under the necessity of informing Mr. Morris, "that his frequent

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visits prevented the young lady from making a progress in her education." He then traced him to every part of the continent, and showed the probability of a like advantage being taken at Lisle, where Miss Harford "desired the ceremony to be performed in the English language." He next proved from the *Lex Loci* of the country in which the marriage contract was celebrated, that it was illegal; that it was likewise illegal under the marriage act of 1753; that it was void by the common law antecedent to that period; that it was equally condemned by the principles of the Roman and the canon law. His argument, which embraced an immense scope of learning and law, both jurisprudential and canonical, lasted two hours. At nine o'clock Mr. Mansfield began his argument, and continued it till ten, in the course of which he concluded that the marriage in question was founded in fraud and illegality; particularly with respect to the *Lex Loci* of the two places (French Flanders and Denmark) in which it was performed. He quoted the opinions of the ablest lawyers in those places, to prove his assertions. After a profundity of reasoning, he concluded with craving judgement in favour of Miss Harford.—The court was then cleared, and after half an hour's consideration the court was opened, and final judgement given—"That both pretended marriages were void; that Miss Harford, falsely in the libel called Morris, was at full liberty to marry again, and that Mr. Morris was condemned in full costs."

The delegates who sat were the Archbishop of York, the Earl of Galloway, Lord Sondes, the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Mr. Justice Willes, Mr. Baron Eyre, Mr. Baron Hochoam, Dr. Calvert, and Sir James Marriott.

Mr. Atkinson was again brought to the bar of the King's-Bench, when he received the opinion of the court upon the objections started by his counsel to the informality of the proceedings. Lord Mansfield took a review of all the arguments of the long robe, after which he concluded with pronouncing a decision against the defendant, and that the records might be taken off the file for the purpose of amendment, whereby any error in the return of the *certiorari* might be cured by the court. After this opinion from the noble lord, Mr. Justice Willes rose to proceed and give judgement upon Mr. Atkinson; on which Mr. Bearcroft requested the sentence to be postponed till next term, when he should add further reasons in arrest of judgement. Time was accordingly given, and Mr. Atkinson was remanded into the custody of the tipstaff.

MONDAY, 24.

The following letter was received late this night by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, from the Marquis of Caermarthen, one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state:

St. James's, May 24, 1784.

"MY LORD,

"I Have the honour to acquaint your lordship, that Mr. Stone is just arrived from Paris, with the Definitive Treaty of Peace between his Majesty and the States-General of the United Provinces, which was signed the 20th instant, by Mr. Hailes, his Majesty's minister plenipotentiary,

plenipotentiary, and the Dutch plenipotentiaries.

"I send your lordship immediate notice of this event, that it may be made public without loss of time. I am, with great truth and regard,

"My lord,

"Your lordship's most humble servant,

"CAERMARTHEN."

Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

Imports and exports of England to and from all parts:

	Imports.	Exports.
Ten years, ending	£.	£.
1710	4,557,894	6,512,095
Do. 1720	5,288,571	7,767,307
Do. 1730	6,950,811	10,130,870
Do. 1740	7,570,598	11,338,961
Do. 1750	7,396,602	12,399,055
Do. 1760	8,570,989	13,829,953
Do. 1770	11,088,711	14,841,548
Do. 1780	11,760,655	13,913,236

I R E L A N D.

THE great distress of the poor in this kingdom may be collected from the following extract:—"On Saturday Alderman Warren begged leave to inform the House of Commons of the alarming degree to which emigration was now taking place; many ships had lately sailed with multitudes of people on board; and there were now three ships in the harbour, each of which would carry away perhaps 300 persons: he had gone on board these ships, and he was sorry to find the persons emigrating were not the profligate, the idle, and the dissolute, but the sober, the honest, and industrious country people, many of them from the counties of Wexford and Kilkenny, spinners and combers, who declared they tore themselves away from their native country because they could not procure subsistence in it. This, the alderman very justly said, was an evil that ought to be stopped, not by any coercive measure, but by making the people happy, and finding employment for them at home: he mentioned the subject, therefore, that gentlemen might consider of it during the recess." If the happiness of the governed be the criterion of government, what judgement must we form of the system pursued in Ireland?

May 14. This day the Lord-Lieutenant went in state to the House of Peers, with the usual solemnity, and the Commons being sent for, gave the royal assent to forty-one public and fifteen private bills; among the former of which were the act to secure the liberty of the press, and the act to disqualify Lord Viscount Strangford from sitting or voting in parliament. His grace was then pleased to make a speech, after which the Lord Chancellor, by his command, prorogued the parliament to Tuesday the 29th day of June next.

E A S T - I N D I E S.

May 15.

THE following intelligence from the East-Indies, received by his Majesty's ship *Crocodile*, has been transmitted to the Right Hon. Lord Sydney, his Majesty's principal secretary of state for the home department.

Bombay-Castle, Dec. 30, 1783.

HIS Majesty's ship *Crocodile* arrived the 26th inst. from Bengal and Madras. She left Bengal about the middle of November, but has brought no advices from the governor-general and council. A letter received by her from the select committee at Madras, dated the 4th inst. gives an account of the progress of Messrs. Sadler and Staunton, and of some steps actually taken in the mutual evacuation of conquests. The general of Tippoo-Saib's army in the Carnatick was in full march to the Changamah pass, accompanied by these gentlemen; and their arrival is mentioned by Tippoo-Saib, in his letters to Gen. Macleod, as an event that will bring with it a certainty of peace.

Some boats with sepoy having been wrecked near Cannanore in the late bad weather, upon the Malabar coast, and about 200 of them seized and detained by the Bibby, notwithstanding repeated applications made for their release, both by Gen. Macleod and the resident at Tellicherry; and the Cannanore government being on all occasions inimical to the company, the general, immediately after the relief of Mangalore, declared his intention to take satisfaction for these injuries. In a letter received within these few days, we are advised of the place being taken, and promised further particulars in a short time; but in this letter the general mentions that the Nabob Tippoo-Saib had desired him to desist; and claimed the Bibby as his ally: the general, however, assures us that no bad consequences will ensue.

The separate treaty with Mhadajee Scindia is arrived. The president and select committee have just received a letter from the Peshwa, in answer to their's, wherein he expresses his full acquiescence in the treaty, and his readiness to join with the English in offensive measures against Tippoo-Saib, should he fail in performing the conditions required from him.

Bombay-Castle, Jan. 10, 1784.

LATE last night dispatches arrived from Brigadier-General Macleod, dated on board the *Ranger* snow, off Mangalore, the 28th and 29th ult.

In the first the general gives a particular detail of the capture of Cannanore, and in the second advises, in general terms, that the negotiations for peace were going on, and that Tippoo-Saib had not refused his permission to re-occupy Mangalore, which service the general was then performing, the boats being then in the river, and the vessels under weigh with the provisions for Olore.

The capture of Cannanore (the name of our new conquest) is but too much of a piece with the general conduct of our commanders in India. In peace, the arts of speculation succeed but slowly, where all are engaged in the same traffic. The profits of war are more rapid, and thence more alluring. A general finds or creates an occasion for plunder, assigns to the civil government a share of the spoil, and assures them that no bad consequences will ensue!

Sceleratus amor habendi!

It is even said, that mercantile avarice has made such a progress at Madras, that a descendant of Tamerlane begs at the governor's gate, who scarcely gives him a few handful of rice, and

and does not blush at it; that twenty Zemindars are begging alms on the great road; and their wives, left to the horrors of starving, are obliged to follow the scandalous trade of public courtezans.

Private letters from Bombay, by the *Crocodile* frigate, mention that the capture of Cannanore had been loudly complained of by the Dutch governor at Cochin, that fort belonging to a prince in alliance with the States, and who had joined them against the *Samoreen* (a title equal to that of king of the country powers).—It was pretended the fort in question was some years since built by the Dutch, for the protection of their pepper trade, and that some of the republic's subjects were in the place when it was taken, and made prisoners, though afterwards set at liberty by order of the commanding officer.

A French account, of a somewhat later date, further adds, that Tippoo-Saib still raises difficulties and delays to the definitive conclusion of the peace. That prince said to General Macleod, "Englishmen and Frenchmen, the only point that divides you is the interest of trade; it is our spoils that you contend for, and those attract you because they enrich you. You have ceased to fight, because you have no more money. Return then to Europe, to economise the produce of your subsidies: you will afterwards come back to cut one another's throats among us, and tear from us our wealth and our products." But perhaps the obvious justice of such a speech is, at present, the only foundation for it. It serves, at least, to shew in what light Europeans view their own conduct in India.

BIRTHS.

April THE lady of the Hon. Col. Rodney, 12. *T* a son.—19. Lady of Sir George Collier, a daughter.—The wife of James Cooper, bricklayer, in Reading, two sons. In May last she was delivered of three girls, which makes her the mother of five children within eleven months.—25. Lady of John Villet Adye, Esq. a son.—*May* 2. The Countess of Tankerville, a son.—15. The lady of Paul Cob Methuen, Esq. a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

April THE Rev. Mr. Turner, archdeacon 22. *T* and canon of Wells, to Miss Burnaby, eldest daughter of Sir William Burnaby, Bart. late vice-admiral of the blue.—29. Samuel Heathcote, Esq. son of Sir Thomas Heathcote, Bart. to Miss Stone, of Melkham.—*May* 4. At Leominster, the Rev. Mr. Lodge, to Miss Anne Colt, youngest daughter of the Rev. Sir John Dutton Colt, Bart.—At Watlington, in Kent, the Rev. Mr. Gammon, to Miss Eagleton.—7. The Right Hon. Lord Clive to the Hon. Lady Henrietta Herbert, sister to the Earl of Powys.—10. Richard Coffin, Esq. of Portledge, in Devon, to Miss Monoux, of Bedfordshire.—14. Capt. Hervey, of the royal navy, to Lady Louisa Nugent, daughter of Lady Berkeley.—15. Henry Grefwold Lewis, Esq. to Miss Bridgeman, eldest daughter of Sir Henry Bridgeman, Bart.—The Rev. George Parrill, rector

of Luggersale, and prebend of Chichester, to Miss Peckham, daughter of the Rev. Henry Peckham, of Chichester.—17. The Rev. Thomas Biddulph, vicar of Padstow, in the county of Cornwall, to Miss Sarah Townsend, daughter of the late Chauncy Townsend, Esq. and sister to James Townsend, Esq. member for Calne.—Lately, Capt. Watson, of the 5th regiment, to Miss Pye, only daughter of the Rev. Dr. Pye, rector of Whitborn.—Capt. Nicholas Boscawen, of the second regiment of foot guards, to Miss M. Broome.

DEATHS.

March CARDINAL John Charles Bandi, 23. *C* Bishop of Imola, uncle to the Pope, in his diocese, aged 73 years.—27. At Lille, in French Flanders, Marmaduke Gwynne, Esq. of the Garth, Brecknockshire.—*April* 13. At Tawstock-house, in the county of Devon (the seat of his ancestors) Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart. in the 70th year of his age.—14. In the city of Cashell, in Ireland, Jonathan Montgomery, Esq. aged 105 years.—In Scotland, the Right Hon. James Lord Rollo. He is succeeded in his honours and estate by his eldest son John, now Lord Rollo.—17. George Philipps, Esq. lately elected to represent the borough of Caermarthen in parliament.—20. Sir James Brown, Bart. He is succeeded by his only son William Augustus Brown, a lieutenant in the 67th regiment of foot, in Ireland.—In the 83d year of his age, David Burton, Esq. one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the counties of York and Durham.—22. The Hon. Henry Grenville, uncle to Lord Temple. Mr. Grenville was formerly governor of Barbadoes, where a statue was erected to his memory by the islanders, when he left it; after which he was ambassador to Constantinople. He has left one daughter, who is the lady of Lord Viscount Mahon.—The Rev. Thomas Mosley, rector of Stonegrave, Wigginton, Haxby, and Strenfall.—23. In childbirth, the lady of Samuel Estwick, Esq. member of parliament for the borough of Westbury.—25. At Oettinguen, in the 23d year of her age, of the consequences of her lying-in, the Princess of Taurand Taxis, consort of the Prince of Oettinguen.—26. The Right Hon. David Dalrymple, of Welshall, one of the Lords of council and session.—26. At Halle, Prince Francis Adolphus, of Anhalt-Bernburg-Schaumbourg.—28. The Right Hon. the Countess of Waldegrave.—29. At Linfield, in *Suffex*, in the 88th year of his age, the Rev. Mr. Timothy Burrell, rector of Liddiard Millicent.—The Rev. Mr. Tookey, rector of Exning in Suffolk.—30. Suddenly, of an apoplexy, Francis Charles, Count of Welbruck, Prince of the Holy Roman empire, and Bishop of Liege. He was born the 11th of January, 1719, and elected bishop the 16th of January, 1772. His dominions in the Low Countries contain about 200,000 inhabitants. His revenue amounted annually to upwards of 800,000 livres.—Lately, in the 77th year of his age, the Rev. William Addison, rector of West Roundton.—In the south of France, Lady Charlotte Herbert, only daughter of the

Earl of Pembroke.—At Tallenstown, in the county of Louth, in Ireland, aged 107, James Bryan.—*May* 1. Lady Wynn, relict of Sir John Wynn, Bart. and mother to the present Lord Newborough.—2. Mr. George Morton, surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital.—Miss Burrell, only daughter of Sir Peter Burrell.—The Rev. John Palmer, forty-two years rector of St. Michael's, in Gloucester.—3. The Rev. Dr. Waldegrave, of Washington, in Suffex.—5. Isaac Paike, Esq. of Needham-market, one of his Majesty's commissioners of the peace for Suffolk.—7. The Rev. Edward Foyle, of Cholderton, rector of Kimpton, in Hampshire.—8. Mr. William Parker, printer, in Fleet-street, and one of the common-councilmen of Farringdon-ward without.—10. At Norwich, the Rev. Robert English, M. A. chaplain to Lord Hawke, and rector of St. Faith's and Horsford.—13. In the Middlesex-hospital, raving mad, Mrs. Pope, who threw herself out of a two-pair-of-stairs window at the fire in Wells-street (p. 414).—19. Mr. Hurford, coal-merchant, many years one of the common-council of Castle-Baynard ward.—20. Suddenly, after eating a hearty dinner, the Hon. Miss Bertie, daughter of the Earl of Abingdon.—Lately, near St. Alban's, aged 103 years, Mrs. Jane Pritchard.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS.

GAZETTE, Feb. 24, 1784.

RICHARD Earl of Mornington, and Thomas Orde, Esq. sworn of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council in the kingdom of Ireland.—The Right Hon. Thomas Orde, to be chief secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.—28. The Right Hon. Richard Earl of Shannon, George Viscount Edgumbe, and Thomas Lord Walsingham, vice-treasurers of the kingdom of Ireland.—Basil Cochrane, Adam Smith, James Buchanan, and James Edgar, Esqrs. together with David Reid, Esq. to be commissioners for the receipt and management of his Majesty's customs and other duties in Scotland.—*March* 5. Robert Howell Vaughan, of Havod Owen, Esq. to be sheriff of the county of Merioneth, *vice* David Roberts, of Blaenyddol, Esq.—8. William Fraser, Stephen Cottrell, and Evan Nepean, Esquires, to be commissioners for executing the office of keeper of the privy-seal.—John Edenfor Heathcote, Esq. sheriff of the county of Stafford, knighted.—16. James Stanley, Esq. barrister at law, to be steward and one of the judges of his Majesty's palace court of Westminster.—George Earl of Orford to be ranger and keeper of St. James's Park.—17. The Right Hon. Lord George Lenox to be constable of his Majesty's Tower of London, and also lord-lieutenant of the Tower hamlets.—20. Anthony Merry, Esq. to be his Majesty's consul at Malaga.—27. Ralph Heathcote, Esq. to be his Majesty's minister plenipotentiary to the Elector of Cologne, also minister plenipotentiary to the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel.—The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Galway to be comptroller of his Majesty's household.—The Right Hon. William Wyndham Grenville, and the Right Hon. Lord Mulgrave, to be joint receivers and pay-

sons, and land forces.—Lloyd Kenyon, Esq. his Majesty's attorney-general, chief justice of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and justice of the counties of Chester and Flint, to be master or keeper of the rolls and records in chancery, *vice* the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Sewell, Knt. deceased.—28. The Right Hon. Richard Viscount Howe, Charles Brett, Esq. Richard Hopkins, Esq. the Hon. John Jefferies Pratt, the Hon. John Leveson Gower, the Right Hon. Henry Bathurst (commonly called Lord Apsley) and the Hon. Charles George Percival, to be his Majesty's commissioners for executing the office of High Admiral of Great-Britain and Ireland, &c.—29. The Hon. Richard Howard to be secretary to the Queen, and comptroller of her Majesty's household, *vice* George Augustus North, Esq.—30. Richard Pepper Arden, Esq. his Majesty's solicitor-general, to be attorney-general, chief justice of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and justice of the counties of Cheiter and Flint, *vice* Lloyd Kenyon, Esq.—The Hon. James Luttrell to be master surveyor of his Majesty's Ordnance.—*April* 2. The Right Hon. Lloyd Kenyon, master of the rolls, sworn of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council.—3. Sir Richard Reynell, Bart. to be one of his Majesty's commissioners for the management of the duties on salt.—7. Archibald Macdonald, Esq. one of his Majesty's counsel, to be solicitor-general, *vice* Richard Pepper Arden, now attorney-general.—14. Henry Thomas Gott, of Newlands, in the county of Buckingham, Esq. knighted.—16. The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Galway sworn of his Majesty's most honourable privy council.—The Right Hon. John Foster to be chancellor of the court of Exchequer in the kingdom of Ireland.—23. The Right Hon. Lord Mulgrave sworn of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council.—27. Isaac Heard, Esq. Clarenceux King of Arms, to be principal King of Arms, and Garter, &c. *vice* Ralph Bigland, Esq. deceased.—28. Daniel Hailes, Esq. to be his Majesty's minister plenipotentiary at the court of Versailles, during the absence of his Grace the Duke of Dorset, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to that court.—30. The Hon. Lieut. Col. Henry Fitz-Roy Stanhope to be a groom of the bed-chamber to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.—*May* 8. Thomas Lock, Esq. Norroy King of Arms, to be Clarenceux King of Arms, &c. of the south, east, and west parts of the kingdom of Great-Britain called England.—11. The King has been pleased to grant the dignities of viscount and earl of Great-Britain to the Right Hon. George Lord Abergavenny, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Viscount Neville, of Birling, in Kent, and Earl of Abergavenny, in the county of Monmouth.—The dignity of an earl of Great-Britain to the Right Hon. George Townshend, Baron de Ferrars of Chartley; Baron Bouchier, Louvaine, Bassier, and Compton, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of earl of the county of Leicester.—The dignity of an Earl of Great-Britain to the Right Hon. Henry Lord Paget, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Earl of Uxbridge, in Middlesex.—The dignities of

baron,

Esq. justice, mery, Flint, records, thomas, Hon. Esq. Efferies, Right Lord, Mercival, Ecuting Britain, How, nptrol-ge Au-Arden, be at-ities of the Ken-to be ce.—, maf-'s most, d Rey-commis-ities on, one of general, ney-ge-wlands, hted.—Galway, le privy, er to be, ne king-n. Lord, honoura-fq. Cla-al King, h Big-es, Esq. iary at, ce of his, r extra-turt —Fitz-Roy, mber to, s.—May, of Arms, . of the, gdom of, the King, s of vis- the Right, the heirs, the title, ent, and, of Mon-reat-Bri-wnshend, ouchier, the heirs, the title, he digni-ght Hon-le of his, f Earl of, gnities of, baron,

baron, viscount, and earl of Great-Britain to Sir James Lowther, Bart. and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Baron Lowther, of Lowther, in Westmorland, Baron of the barony of Kendal, in the said county, and Baron of the barony of Burgh, in Cumberland, Viscount Lonsdale and Viscount Lowther, and Earl of Lonsdale.—The dignity of a baron of Great-Britain to the Right Hon. Thomas Viscount Bulkeley, of Ireland, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Lord Bulkeley, Baron of Beaumaris, in the county of Anglesey.—The like dignity of baron of Great-Britain to the several gentlemen following, and the respective heirs male of their bodies lawfully begotten, by the titles under-mentioned, viz. Sir Thomas Egerton, of Heaton-house, in the county palatine of Lancaster, Baronet, Baron Grey de Wilton, in the county of Hereford.—Sir Charles Cocks, of Castleditch, in the county of Hereford, Bart. Lord Sommers,

Baron of Evesham, in Worcestershire.—John Parker, of Saltram, in Devonshire, Esq. Baron Boringdon, of Boringdon, in the said county.—Noel Hill, Esq. Baron Berwick, of Attingham, in Salop—and James Dutton, Esq. Lord Sherborne, Baron of Sherborne, in the county of Gloucester.—The Earl of Leven to be his Majesty's high commissioner to the General Assembly of the church of Scotland.—The Right Hon. John Scott, his Majesty's prime serjeant in Ireland, to be his Majesty's Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench in the said kingdom. Also to be a baron of Ireland, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the title of Baron Earlsfort, of Liffon-Earl, in the county of Tipperary.—13. Lieut. Col. Charles Rooke to be one of the gentlemen ushers, quarterly-waiters, to her Majesty, *vice* Henry Revelly, Esq.—18. Henry Revelly, Esq. to be one of the commissioners for his Majesty's revenue of Excise, *vice* Charles Garth, Esq. deceased.

Postscript.

COMMEMORATION OF HANDEL, UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY.

First performance at Westminster-Abbey, on Wednesday morning, the 26th of May.

WE cannot in any adequate terms describe the grandeur of this festival. Habituated as we are to public exhibitions, and having had the opportunity of beholding whatever has engaged the notice of the metropolis for many years, we may be allowed to speak from comparison—on experience, therefore, we say, that so grand and beautiful a spectacle, with, at the same time, a feast so rich and so perfect, has not been presented to the public eye within our memory. The *corp d'œil* infinitely surpassed that of the trial of the Dukes of Kingston in Westminster-hall—and the Jubilee of Garrick, from which the idea of the present was taken, though it filled the bosoms of men with equal enthusiasm, fell greatly short in the execution. On the trial of the Dukes of Kingston there was a heavy grandeur—the robes and the etiquette of rank, aided by the gloom of the Hall, prevented us from enjoying the beauties of variety. Here we had all the youth, beauty, grandeur, and taste of the nation, unrestrained by the regulations of a court of law, and grouped in all the natural and easy appearance of the *pele mele*. The ladies were without diamonds, feathers, or flowers, and thus, in our mind, their charms were embellished.

—For beauty

Needs not the foreign aid of ornament;

But is, when unadorn'd, adorn'd the most.

On a future occasion, we may give some account of the picture of the Abbey. The arrangement of the whole was admirable, and did infinite credit to the talents of Mr. Wyatt. His orchestra he constructed so well, that the whole performers had a full view of the leader, and were as regular as the most compact band, a circumstance not less true than utterly astonishing, when we recollect that their number amounted to five hundred and thirteen. The great aisle under

the orchestra, and the galleries on each hand, were so contrived, by the gradual elevation, that from every point of view the whole was seen, and the grand box for their Majesties and the royal family terminated the prospect.

The company began to assemble at a very early hour. Before ten in the morning the appearance was numerous, and about half after eleven the immense space was crowded to overflowing; the number was not short of 4000, the greatest part of which were ladies. By the natural coolness of the Abbey, and the contrivance of the directors, the place was not so intolerable for heat as might be imagined from the season. Their Majesties arrived about a quarter past twelve o'clock. The King came first into his box, and on viewing the brilliant spectacle, he started, and stood for some moments seemingly in an extasy of astonishment, an extasy which could only be exceeded by the transports of our amiable Queen. The Royal Pair were accompanied by Prince Edward and the Princess Royal, who sat on the King's right, and the Princesses Augusta Sophia and Elizabeth on the Queen's left hand; they were all in one box, which was most elegantly ornamented.

The festival then began, and the *Coronation Anthem* was the first piece, which was selected as a salutation, and in its performance displayed the amazing powers of the band. It would be presumptive in us to enter into a detail of the performance. It was in so grand, so superior, and so exalted a style, that it must not be subjected to the rules of pettyfogging criticism. Our readers may imagine better than we can describe the fulness of a band of more than 500 instruments—They may conceive what must be produced by a combination of all the executive powers in the country, inflamed and actuated by the muse of Handel. Will they not believe that

“ ———they

“ ——— they would seize the prisoned soul,
“ And lap it in elysium.”

What was said by hyperbole of the eloquence of the Earl of Chatham, might, without a figure, be applied to this; “ that it resembled at times “ the thunder, and at times the music of the “ spheres.” Nor was there, we believe, an individual present, who, during the influence of the artillery of the band, when the bursts of the full chorus struck the ear, and shook the mansion, was not carried back by analogy to the torrents of the artillery of Heaven, with which, but that very morning, the hemisphere had rung. The present is in reality an æra in the music of Britain; and as, while the soul and the genius of music has existence, it will be our pride that Handel composed his works in England, it will not be forgotten that his works have been so greatly commemorated. His is the muse for the English character. He writes to the masculine genius of a free people, and it was only by such an execution that the true majesty of his composition could be demonstrated. It has been attributed to music that it enervates the mind. How far this may be true of the refinements of the Italian school, or even of simple melodies, we do not think ourselves competent to determine; but the most refined and most martial people of antiquity, the inhabitants of ancient Greece, whose achievements both in arts and in arms fill the mind with astonishment and incredulity, were so enamoured of the charms of harmony, that they deemed a proficiency on some musical

instrument an essential embellishment to the character of the statesman, the general, and the orator. And surely, if any thing can more than ordinarily invigorate the mind; if any thing can arouse the faculties, and coagitate the masculine passions of the soul, it is the music of Handel, performed by such a band as are now engaged in his commemoration.

Joah Bates, Esq. who was the conductor of the band, and to whose efforts so much of the general character and excellence of the entertainment was owing, appeared to be so agitated and inflamed by the subject during the performance—his mind was so involved, and his powers so roused, that his instrument, though immense in its tones, could hardly give utterance to his sentiments. Driven along the torrent so powerfully, he was at times too rapid in the movement, but his judgment quickly corrected his feelings; and a band more easily directed, more distinct in its impressions, or more perfect in its harmony, we never saw. Such was the first exhibition in this national feast.

Their Majesties seemed enraptured during the performance. The King was dressed in light blue; the Queen in a *gorge de pigeon* colour, and her head-dress decorated with a profusion of diamonds. The Princess Royal was in lilach, and confessedly the most lovely woman in the Abbey. The situation of her Royal Highness was rather singular, though we hope not ominous, being midway between the altar and a *cloyster*.

The SECOND PERFORMANCE at the PANTHEON, on Thursday, May 27th.

THIS evening's entertainment, though perhaps not equal in point of grandeur to that of the preceding day, was in every respect worthy of the occasion. It consisted of Handel's lighter compositions, with several of his most sublime choruses. The band, in proportion to the size of the place, and the number of the audience, was less numerous, and more select.

No exertions of art were wanting to prepare the grand saloon for the most perfect accommodation of the subscribers. A spacious projecting gallery, on painted columns, in imitation of the porphyry one which support the building, was erected over the great door, for the reception of their Majesties, and the rest of the royal family. In the centre of it appeared a state gallery, with seats for the King and Queen, under a lofty canopy, adorned with crimson and gold decorations, the dome of which was richly gilt, and relieved by the royal arms. Elegant compartments of the same box were reserved for the Princess Royal, and the junior branches of the family; large piers of plate glass were fixed behind it, which heightened by various reflecting lustres, gave the whole an appearance truly magnificent! One of the detached side wings of the gallery was allotted for the ladies in waiting, and the maids of honour; the other for the King's suite. These were both ornamented with white lutestring, festooned, and fringed with gold, on a ground of *zephyr blue*.

The remainder of the saloon was disposed for the most convenient reception of 2,400 subscribers, the utmost number of tickets that could be issued, though more than double the quantity was pressing demanded.

A gradual elevation of benches was made in all the galleries, and likewise through all the recesses underneath them. The dome was illuminated with buff coloured lamps, disposed in small squares, which, with the addition of numberless lustres, added a peculiar brilliancy to the scene! the orchestra remained in its usual place and form; but in the gallery over it was erected an organ, on the top of which shone in transparency an irradiated bust of the immortal HANDEL!

The company began to assemble at six o'clock, and long before seven every part of the House was crowded. Their Majesties arrived soon after eight, with the three elder princesses in company. The Princess Royal sat on the right hand of their Majesties, and the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth on the left.

As soon as the royal auditors were seated, the concert opened, the band was led by Cramer, with his usual fire and correctness. His performance of the last grand concert was admirable, and evinced the versatility and extent of his powers. To Madame Mara, it is impossible to pay a compliment in her profession which she does not deserve. Her amazing compass of voice is sweet in each extreme. Her first song was executed in a stile that equally astonished and delighted the musician and the *amateur*. Her cadences were the inspirations of the genius of Handel, and were admirably suited to the subject. Great praise is due to the other eminent performers who distinguished themselves on this occasion. Miss Cantelo, Miss Abrams, Pachierotti, Bartolini, Tafca—all were excellent in their respective songs. But we cannot wish

hold our particular tribute of applause from Mr. Harrison, whom we have no hesitation in pronouncing the best singer of Handel's pathetic pieces, since the days of the enchanting Miss Harrop. He sung with equal taste and feeling, and we regretted that he had so little allotted to him. Their Majesties seemed much delighted with the performance, and with the splendid effect of the most brilliant company that ever graced the

THIRD PERFORMANCE at WESTMINSTER-ABBEY, on Saturday, May 29.

SUCH was the ardour and enthusiasm which the two former exhibitions had excited in the public, that the rehearsal of this day's performance on the 28th, was attended by fifteen hundred persons, admitted at half a guinea each.

The music in the Pantheon seems to have been selected to display the taste and elegance—that at the Abbey, the grandeur and majesty of the art. The *Messiah*, which is justly esteemed the most sublime oratorio of Handel, was this day executed in a manner worthy of that immortal genius—in a style that reflected the highest honour on Mr. Bates, the soul and conductor of the whole, and on all the other performers in their respective departments. Of the general effect we have already spoken, in our account of the first day's performance, which, in no point of transcendent excellence, was superior to this. Its merit may be felt but not described. The King and Queen, who beside the three elder princes, were this day accompanied by the Princesses Mary and Sophia, being seated, the performance began at a quarter past twelve exactly. The introduction was sung by Mr. Harrison, with great animation and correctness. The *Hallelujah*, which finished the second part, was repeated by the particular desire of his Majesty. This movement is better calculated to display the power of an immense volume of sound, and, therefore, to produce a wonderful effect with a large band, than any other composition whatever. Mr. Attridge's drum was heard to great advantage in this *Hallelujah*. "I know that my Redeemer liveth" was sung most divinely by Madame Mara. As in compass, power, and melody of voice—so in musical learning and science—in ease and brilliancy of execution Madame Mara is undoubtedly without a rival. "The trumpet's shrill sound," by Tafca, gave great satisfaction. His fine bass voice made ample amends for

Pantheon. The Prince of Wales attended incognito. The performance did not conclude till near twelve o'clock, and four hours of continual rapture, what mortal frame can bear. Languor irresistibly invaded part of the company, and those whose sensibility of soul withstood the weakness of nature, seemed suspended in a kind of painful delirium, unable any longer to discriminate their feelings.

any deficiency of expression that might be supposed to arise from his want of knowledge in the language. Mr. Surgeant accompanied him in a very masterly manner. The *Amen* which concludes the whole, is replete with florid counterpoint, and no master has produced so great an effect with a fugue. Norris and Reinhold each bore a part in the solo songs, and are well entitled to praise. Bartolini, Miss Cantelo, and other singers were not in our opinion the less deserving, that our limits will not permit us to enter into the merits of each. Through the whole the fire of Handel, which glows in every part of this sublime production, called forth the powers of the performers and the feelings of the audience to a degree that almost gives credibility to whatever has been fabled of the "concord of sweet sounds." The band, the same in all respects as on Wednesday, except the leader, was led by Mr. Cramer, every where bold, correct, unrestrained, and equal to himself.

Such was the execution, and such the success of this splendid jubilee in commemoration of the Shakespeare of music.

By some, perhaps, the magnificence of the undertaking may be thought disproportionate to the object. The serious and menacing aspect of the times, it may also be said, accords but ill with splendid festivals and entertainments of profuse expence. Perhaps some inadvertencies might occur in the management, and some persons might gain admission into the orchestra and the choir more from their connexions than their merit; but we are not of that herd of critics, who think that man was born to continual trouble, and who rejoice more over one accidental blemish, than ninety and nine incontestible excellencies.

We have been informed, that Dr. Burney is drawing up an account of this jubilee, by the desire of the directors.

ON Friday the 28th, the Hay-market theatre opened for the season, under the direction of Mr. Colman, by far the ablest and most attentive manager since the days of Garrick. The entertainments for the evening were, the Spanish Barber, and the Agreeable Surprise. A new Lilliputian dance, called the Medley, was introduced, performed, as we understand, by the children of the players. To this species of entertainment we are far from partial, though we acknowledge the audience seemed of a very different opinion. It is, however, an education which for the sake of the comic and the tragic muse we wish not the children of players to receive. An occasional prelude called the *Election of the Manager*, was advertised but withdrawn, whether from reasons originating in the Green-room or the Lord Chamberlain's office, we are not informed; but at present let no man

speak of an election and laugh in the same half hour—there will be danger in it. As the late session of parliament promises a warmer campaign than usual, Mr. C. has re-inforced his light troops with a considerable number of heavy armed infantry. In short, he has collected the principal comic and vocal strength of both the winter theatres, as will soon appear by his bills, and if we may judge from appearances, those whose avocations confine them from tasting the pleasures of the country may every evening console themselves with the most lasting, the most rational, and the most instructive of all city amusements. The House, which is contrived with wonderful skill in point of elegant simplicity and coolness, has received some new embellishments, in addition to the improvements of last year.

PRICES of STOCKS, &c. in MAY, 1784.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

Day	Bank Stock.	3 per C reduced	3 per C consols.	4 per C. consols.	Long Ann.	Short An.	India Stock	India Ann	India Bonds 8 dif.	S. Sea Stock	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Navy Bills.	Exch. Bills.	Wind Deal	Weath. London
26	116½	57	58½	75	17½	12½	125	54½	9	65½	57½	57½	17½	Par.	N	Rain
27	116½	58	58½	75	17½	12½	125½	54½					16	Par.	N	Fair
28	116½	57	58½	75	17½	12½	124½	54½					15½	Par.	N	
29	116½	58	58½	75	17½	12½	124	54	9	66	57½			Par.	N	
30	Holiday	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	54							N	
1	Sunday														N	
2															N	
3	116	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124½	54	9		57	57½	15½	Par.	N	
4	116	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124½	53½	7		56½	57½	15½	1s Pre.	N	
5	116	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	53½	7				15	Par.	N	
6	116½	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	54½	6		57		14	Par.	S	
7		57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	54½	6		57½	57½	13½	Par.	N	
8	Sunday	57	58½	74	17½	12½	123½	54½	10				14½	Par.	N	
9															N	
10	116½	58	58½	74	17½	12½	123½	54	10		56½	57½	14	Par.	N	Rain
11		57	58½	74	17½	12½	123½		13				14	Par.	N	
12		57	58½	74	17½	12½	123½		12		57		14½	Par.	N	
13	116½	57	58½	74	17½	12½	123½		12	67		57½	14½		N	Fair
14		57	58½	74	17½	12½	123½	54	11				15		N	
15		58	58½	74	17½	12½	123½		11			58	15	1s Pre.	N	
16	Sunday														N	
17	116½	58	58½	74	17½	12½	124	54½	11			58	15	Par.	N	
18		58	58½	74	17½	12½	124½	53½	11				15	Par.	N	
19	Holiday	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	53½	13					Par.	N	
20															N	
21	116	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	53½	11	66½	56½		16½	Par.	S	
22		57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	53½	11				16½		E	
23	Sunday														S	
24		57	58½	74	17½	12½	124		13						S	Rain
25	116½	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124		13				17		S	
26	116½	57	58½	74	17½	12½	124	53½	13						S	

N. B. In the 3 per Cent Consols. the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.